



Milton's Commemorative Gold Watches

A Mystery From the Past

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This is the story of Milton's Commemorative Gold Watches that were presented to 118 of Milton's Soldiers during and after the Great War of 1914-1919 (World War One, WWI). As there was no known list of the soldiers who received these watches, an investigation was carried out to determine the most likely of all the Milton Soldiers who would receive a watch, using the criteria set out by the Town Council and Selection Committee members in 1915, 1917, 1919 and 1922.

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1 Project Background

At the end the Great War (The First World War of 1914-1918), the Town of Milton honoured the Milton Soldiers (*urban Milton*) with commemorative gold watches. There are records of this in the newspaper archives and the council minutes of that era (1919) and a number of residents have personally seen one or more of the gold watches given to the soldiers (*circa 2010/2011*).

In 1989, Stewart Wolf (*now deceased*) tried to solve the riddle of the gold watches – that is to determine the names of the 99 men (*or widows/families*) who received this coveted item (*ATTACHMENT #1 - Milton Observer of March 22, 1989*). The Town of Milton had assisted Mr. Wolf to the best of its capability, but with no resolution (*ATTACHMENT #2 - Mayor Gord Krantz Letter of April 29, 1988*). To the best of my knowledge Stewart Wolf was not successful, as there is no further mention of the project in any of the historical files. We know now that the total number of watches issued to all the Milton Soldiers was not “99 watches” but rather 99 plus all the pre and post 1919 watches issued. We know as a minimum now that the watches issued were:

• Pre-1917 watches	2
• Dominion Day 1917 watches	16
• September 1919 watches	99
• 1922 Watch	1
• TOTAL WATCHES ISSUED (known)	118

In February 2010, Milton Legion member Ron Regan donated his grandfather's commemorative gold watch to the project (*Richard Stephen Regan #57714*). In the process of preparing a “*Soldier Summary*” on Private Regan, the question of the origin of the Milton Gold Watch became increasingly more interesting to the author. In January 2011, Grandson Ron Regan offered his grandfather's gold watch to the community (*Town, MHS, and/or Legion*) so that it could become an archive for all future Milton residents to see first-hand. Although there was an interest in the watch, no one group was prepared to follow-up on the history of the watches and/or to prepare a display. It seemed logical that the next step would be to try and solve the puzzle of **WHO RECEIVED A WATCH?** The original plan of Wolf was to have a plaque in Town Hall listing the 99 men (*now known to be 118*) who received a watch – which could now be augmented with the placement of one or more of the original watches. Although the watch or watches existed for the plaque, the names of the recipients were lacking. To finish the project that Stewart Wolf had started, it was necessary to determine who received a watch.

In 2006 the Milton Historical Society reported:

“At the recognition of the returned men in 1919 the town presented 90 watches ... alas we have found no published list of the recipients.”

The purpose of this review is to provide documentation of what was available to the initial selection committee (*circa 1919*), prior researchers (*circa 1988*), and what is available now (*2011*). The current goal is to arrive at an authoritative list of the most likely candidates for those 118 recipients, using information that would have been available to the selection committee in 1919. Unlike the 1989 research, the 2011 project now had access to the Internet, which was considerably augmented by the addition of a number of on-line data bases providing access to the historical records. The project also benefited from the extensive work completed by Jim Dills ([Milton Remembers WWI and the Men and Women We Never Knew](#) “MRWWI”) and the author ([Great War Soldiers of Milton Ontario – Web Site](#)). With the existing watches and an authoritative list of recipients, a memorial to the Great War Soldiers who received these mementos could finally be created.

The analysis of the “*who received a watch*” question consists of two parts, the first of which is this document “*Milton’s Commemorative Gold Watches – A Mystery from the Past*”. The second component is the spreadsheet analysis, which details all the information known about the individual soldiers, which is then used to sort the candidates into different categories. Parts of the written text are colour coded to match the colours used in the spreadsheet analysis. For example, here are some of the primary codes:

GW	watch physically exists
LW	listed watch recipient (see report details)
MP	meets criteria "must be" and on a memorial (except Haltonville)
LC	logical candidate "possible" not on a memorial, strong family ties
PC	possible candidate, not all criteria met, includes farmers on memorials
OL	off the list for one of many reasons

The order shown in the above list is from the “*most positive*” to the “*least likely*”, such as in the case of **GW** where the watch has been seen, down to **OL** where there was a valid reason to remove a soldier’s name from the list. In the spreadsheet analysis, the total number of candidates in each group is summed until the correct number of recipients is identified. The list is “*tweaked*” as the process continues, to sort candidates within a list. We know that the men in the **LW** category are listed as having received a watch, so this is not an assumption in the analysis. Similarly, it is known what names are on each memorial and whether the soldier survived the war. What is not clear is the exact place of residence of each soldier and the time living there, prior to and after the war, all of which were criteria for selection.

Many men are listed in this review that did not qualify for or receive a “gold watch”. The author acknowledges these men in the same manner as all men listed in this document, as it is not important whether or not they received a gold watch – or qualified. It is far more important to note that they served with distinction and should so be accredited. If any person notes any error, misinterpretation, misallocation or any other abnormality with this information, they are asked to contact the author directly (<http://laughton.tel>).

2 Research Resources Available

The ability to attain on-line documents and seek the assistance of other Great War and Genealogical Researchers also assists in examining the details of the gold watch program in greater detail. Some of the information that is now available, that perhaps was not available to Stewart Wolf in 1989 are as follows:

- Canadian Census 1911 (available on-line through [Automated Genealogy for Halton area](#));
- Historical Atlas of [Halton County](#) (1877) for the Towns, Townships and parts thereof, which is important for the determination of the soldiers' residencies based on their papers and the census documents:
 - County of [Halton](#) showing Townships
 - [Milton West](#) (W) and [Milton East](#) (E)
 - Nassagaweya Township [North](#) (N) and [South](#) (S)
 - Esquesing Township [NE](#), [NW](#), [SE](#) and [SW](#)
 - Nelson Township [North](#) and [South](#)
 - Trafalgar Township [NE](#), [NW](#), [SE](#) and [SW](#)
- The [Canadian County Digital Atlas](#) Project with [Halton County](#) Atlas and [Land Holdings](#) of each of the major properties (198 pages) in the Townships;
- [On-Line Archives](#) (Attestation Papers) for all soldiers that attested to the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), which includes details of their residence and next-of-kin (urban Milton or rural) – also searchable on the Canadian Great War Project;
- Library and Archives Canada [Service Records](#) for all soldiers that served in the CEF (some we have uploaded), which provide details of their placement during the war, their arrival back to Canada and details of family members who received pay from the soldier serving overseas (a local address perhaps);
- A complete set of the Nominal Rolls (the [Bob Richardson Collection](#)) that was digitized by the author for the Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group (CEFSG) and is now available on-line;
- A detailed listing of all of the men and women of Milton who served in the CEF in the Great War (the [R. David Albert Turner Collection](#)), as compiled and presented to the Milton Historical Society;
- A database of all of the soldiers of Milton and the surrounding areas that joined the CEF at the onset of the Great War, as prepared by Annette Fulford of the [Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group](#) (CEFSG) from the records of Ancestry.ca;
- Extracts of CEFSG member Marc Leroux's database on the "[Canadian Great War Project](#)", which enables searching for all men who attested to specific infantry battalions (i.e. select those common to the Milton and surrounding area);
- A listing of all soldiers of Milton and the surrounding area that were killed before departure (KBD), killed in action (KIA) or died of wounds (DOW) during the great war, including details on their service and burial (or memorial), compiled by Richard Laughton and Marika Pirie of the CEFSG;

- A collection of names of the Great War Soldiers that are listed on the Memorial Plaques at various locations (i.e. churches, schools, archives) throughout Milton compiled and corrected by the author;
- Extracts of the newspaper references to the watches in September 1919 as compiled by Jim Dills of the Milton Historical Society;
- Minutes of the Milton Council Meetings of August and September 1919, kindly collected and sent to Stewart Wolf by Milton Mayor Gord Krantz on April 29, 1988.; and
- [CWGC On-line Database](#) of soldiers killed in the Great War from August 4, 1914 to August 31, 1921 (soldiers died in Milton, such as Evans, are not included)

3 What Watches Were Issued

Initially there was some question as to whether the total number of watches issued was 99, or was it more? We now know there were watches issued as early as 1915 (*Corporal Frank Sloane, MRWWI page 110*) and as late as 1922 (*Private Ernest William Stewart, MRWWI page 196*). The records also report that 16 watches were presented on Dominion Day 1917, to returned soldiers (10), as well as widows (4) and families (2) of soldiers who died in the Great War (*MRWWI page 137*). Coupled with the 99 issued in 1919, the total issue must be 118 watches.

The major “group presentation” of the 99 watches took place at the SOLDIERS DAYS in September 1919, an event reported in the 2006 report from the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills *et al*:

Milton Remembers World War I and the Men and Women We Never Knew
(Milton Historical Society, October 2006, page 160)

The World War I Years in Milton -1919: Present watches

The most interesting event was the presentation of gold watches to 99 veterans who were citizens of Milton six months before enlistment.

This was followed by the presentation of life membership certificates with gold badges from the Daughters of the Empire to Nursing Sisters Mrs. Mary Robertson, Misses Kathleen Panton, Royal Red Cross, Evelyn and Ruby Galloway and Nellie Lawson of the Canadian Red Cross and Bessie Scott of the American Red Cross.

The returned men and the Nursing Sisters were given a banquet in Knox Church Sunday School. There was a choice menu provided by the ladies of the town. After moving pictures there was a fancy dress ball, a masquerade on the Main Street paved roadway, which was barricaded from the corner of Martin Street to the town hall. An orchestra from the band of the 164th Battalion provided the music. There were so many dancers that the space had to be enlarged.

Some of the key questions that were developed at the search, as described in the details that follow, can be summarized as follows:

1. Was the total number of watches issued 99 – or was that the number issued at the September 1919 *returning soldiers* celebration?
2. Did that include the 2 already issued prior to the 1917 presentations (*MRWWI page 130*) which went to Frank Sloane (*MRWWI page 110*) and Lorne Bradley (*MRWWI page 171*)?
3. Did all of the widows of those who were killed in service receive a watch, or just those listed as 1917 recipients – Mrs. E. Baverstock, Mrs. J. Dockray, Mrs. A. Beard and Mrs. G. Hill (*MRWWI page 137*)?
4. Were the minors working outside of town presented with a watch? If so, who were these minors – students, bantams or others?
5. What exactly was considered as “Milton” at that time (*Milton, Milton West, Milton Heights, Peru, Omagh, Norval, Hornby, Zimmerman, etc.*)? How did those borders differ from the Milton we know today?
6. How many “exceptions” to the selection rules or guidelines were made throughout the process?
7. Does the list of issued watches include the 1922 issue to William Stewart (*MRWWI page 196*) and/or any others issued after that date?
8. Did the men of Milton that were away from home at school (*i.e. Lt. Bastedo and others were at the University of Toronto*) receive a watch – meaning that they were considered to still be living at home in the 6 months prior to enlistment?

The answers to these questions are provided in the report, using actual examples where possible.

3.1 The Known Recipients

At the start of this project we knew the names of at least three (3) of the men who received the watch (the *watches currently exist* “**GW**”), so comparing their qualifications to the “*candidate list*”, assisted in the ongoing work to solve the riddle. Those that we know received the watch because it physically exists in the archives of the soldiers families and has been observed by others at the Milton Historical Society or the Milton Legion:

- **Henry Charlton** (#408717 – 37th Battalion);
- **Uriah Joseph Waters** (#210985 – 98th Battalion); and
- **Richard Stephen Regan** (#57714 – 20th Battalion).

Waters and Regan list their home as Milton, Ontario and Charlton reports Milton West, Ontario. That provides confirmation that men from each of Milton and/or Milton West qualified for the gold watch.

The 1877 Historic Atlas of Halton Region indicates that Milton West was the area we now know as urban Milton between Bronte Street on the east and Sixteen Mile Creek on the west. The north boundary of

Milton West appears to be just north of Woodward Avenue and the south boundary at Robert Street, just north of the Agricultural Grounds. There are references to RR# (*Rural Route Numbers*) in some of the documents, which may apply to the southern lots between Robert Street and what is now Laurier Avenue. I do not have a definitive answer on that matter at this time.

From the service numbers shown, we know the regiments to which each man attested, showing that not all men attested to the local 164th Infantry Battalion (663001-666000 Milton), thus that was not a pre-requisite for the watch. Other major units to which Milton men attested were identified as the 4th Infantry Battalion (10501-12000); the 76th Infantry Battalion (141001-144000); and others. A large number of the men who had served locally with the 20th Halton Rifles (*the militia unit guarding the local armoury*) followed Lt. Bastedo to the 4th Infantry Battalion, most of who attested at the main base in Valcartier, Quebec on September 22, 1914.

Since the completion of the initial report in April 2011 we have received confirmation of a number of additional GOLD WATCHES presented to Milton Soldiers. In order to accommodate these additions, we have added a new SECTION 7 “*Project Updates*” to this report. Some of the updates are reports from families that they know that they have the gold watch; others are absolute confirmation as we have now seen (*or have in our possession*) the gold watch.

3.2 The First Gold Watches Issued in 1915

It has been confirmed that Frank Sloan was the first recipient of a gold watch in December 1915 (*MRWWI page 110*). This information was taken from an article in the local newspaper, which I have now located (*ATTACHMENT #3–Milton Canadian Champion, December 16, 1915*). An extract of the report on the arrival and presentation is reported notes the following “SOLDIER WELCOMED”:

The band played patriotic airs and the school children sang appropriate songs. Mayor J. W. Blain presented the soldier with a gold watch ordered through Mr. Marchand and with a suitable inscription inside its case, and a fob which was a gift of [Mr. Marchand](#).

A separate article in the same paper reports that the recipient of the watch, Lance Corporal Frank Sloan, had to then spend some time in the Hamilton Hospital to tend to the wounds in his arm, which still had remnants of bone splinters and shrapnel from the war wound.

With this information we can now recognize the first “listed gold watch” recipient “**LW**” as:

- **Frederick James Sloane** (#10941 4th Infantry Battalion)
“[Milton Remembers WWI page 110 and 137]

Lorne Bradley was the second listed recipient, as he had received his prior to the July 1, 1917 presentations (*MRWWI page 137*). This is recorded on page 3 of the Milton Canadian Champion in late December 1915 under the title “SOLDIER COMING” (*ATTACHMENT #4 Milton Canadian Champion, December 23, 1915*):

News has been received that Col. Sergeant Lorne Bradley of the 4th Batt. Is on his way home and will be here early in January. Whether he is on leave or has been discharged on account of the wounds received at Ypres is not known. Yesterday evening, at a meeting held at the town hall, it was decided to give him a reception and a gold watch. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

We can state the second listed recipient of a gold watch “**LW**”, the last of 1915 as a man of Milton West:

- **William Lorne Bradley** (#11083 4th Infantry Battalion)
[Milton Remembers WWI, page 137 and 171 – Milton West]

Because there is positive proof that these men received a watch, they appear in the spreadsheet in the “**LW**” (*listed watch*) category.

3.3 The Newspaper Lists of 1917

There is no mention that I have seen to date, of any gold watches issued in 1916. It is quite probably that the war effort was so intense and Milton was busy recruiting for the 164th Halton-Dufferin Battalion, that there just wasn’t time to address the issue. Many of the men that were in the news in 1916 were those that were killed or wounded in the bloody battles at St. Eloi and Mount Sorrel, in the first half of the year, followed by the horrific Battle of the Somme from July to November (*the CEF Matrix Chronology*).

The following year, Canada made headlines around the world with its magnificent victory in the Battle of Vimy Ridge “*The Birth of Canada*” and at subsequent actions in the Battles of the Scarpe where the Canadians took Hill 70. Both these significant battles of 1917 took many Canadian lives and wounded countless more. These were only surpassed by the “*Slaughter in the Mud*” at Passchendaele in October and November.

A number of Milton Soldiers were coming back to Canada in 1917. As early as February 1917 the topic of the SOLDIERS RECEPTION was heating up in the Newspaper. These are highlighted in the February articles (*ATTACHMENT #5 Milton Canadian Champion, February 1917*). Local citizen advocate Anna Ruddy made quite a stink about ensuring that a proper welcome was put in place for the returning soldiers.

It is with a little surprise that I read in the current issue of the Champion a disclaimer on the part of the town council as to any responsibility for the reception of our returned soldiers ... The request was firmly refused on the ground that as it was the intention to give every returned soldier a reception when he came home, the council could not also give them a farewell.

Gold watches or the lack of them are not troubling them, but who shall say that the memory of that spontaneous and kindly farewell did not cheer many a lonely night in the trenches when they had only memories and the silent hours of no-man’s land.

The plans for the Dominion Day celebrations were announced in the local newspaper a few short weeks after the Anna Ruddy letter was published (*ATTACHMENT #6 Milton Canadian Champion, March 1, 1917*):

It is now proposed to give all Milton soldiers who have returned from the front, except the two who have already been welcomed and presented with watches, a reception, with presentation, at the celebration of the semi-centennial of Confederation which will be held here on Dominion Day. We have not abandoned the opinion that the proper time to welcome a soldier is on his arrival, but Dominion Day is only four months away and to do it then will be better than to wait until after the war. It is hoped that this may come before the end of the year, but it is well to have a definite arrangement.

The Milton Patriotic Committee went to work on arranging for the July 1, 1917 Dominion Day event. There is further confirmation of the plans to present the gold watches in the local press in late June as "SOLDIER'S WATCHES" (*ATTACHMENT #7 Milton Canadian Champion, June 28, 1917*):

SOLDIERS' WATCHES The Patriotic Committee met on Tuesday evening, to arrange for next Monday's demonstration. The watches will be presented to the returned soldiers and widows of fallen soldiers, as already announced, but it was decided to give them to returning soldiers only in the future. In the cases of soldiers killed the price of a watch, in each case, will be put into a fund for the erection of a monument in the park after the close of the war. The members of the committee agreed in the opinion that, though a watch would be appropriate in the case of a returned soldier, it would hardly be a memorial for one among the fallen, though given to his widow.

It would appear from all accounts that the Dominion Day party was quite the event and that all the watches were presented as planned. Corporal Sloan and Quarter Master Sergeant Lorne Bradley, noted above as the 1915 gold watch recipients, were on hand. On July 1, 1917 Mayor Earl presented sixteen (16) gold watches to the men, widows and families of the Milton Heroes. The addition of these men to the "listed watches" means that their name on the spreadsheet is now marked as "LW".

Note: the author's analysis of this list does not match that presented in the book, other than for the total of 16 watches and it is adjusted to full and correct soldier name from list)

Returned Soldiers Present (*only 9 in this list*):

- **Sgt. William McKay** (#57087 – 29th Battalion)
- **Corp. John "Jack" Philip Lecocq** (#142283 – 76th Battalion)
- **Albert Charlton** (#160002 – 37th Bn)
- **Arthur Gough** (#57839 – 20th Battalion)
- **Robert Sellars** (#10974 4th Battalion)

- **Arthur Mayes** (#142532 76th Battalion)
- **John Paterson** (#57706 20th Battalion)
- **Wm. Hardy** (#422081 44th Battalion)
[appears to be "John William Hardy", a railway clerk]
- **Albert Palmer** (#10987 4th Battalion)

Returned Soldiers but Not Present (2):

- **William Maddocks** (#302221 4th Canadian Field Artillery)
[in hospital, accepted by mother – died in 1920, buried in Evergreen Cemetery]
- **Roy Elliot Chisholm** (#142261 76th Battalion)
(on assignment, accepted by father)

Soldiers' Widows (4):

- **Ernest Baverstock** (#142260 76th Battalion) Mrs. E. Baverstock
- **Joseph Dockray** (#142534 76th and 21st Battalion) Mrs. J. Dockray
- **Archie Warren Beard** (#142261 24th Battalion) Mrs. A. Beard
- **George Hill** (#46585 17th Battalion) Mrs. G. Hill
[away from home accepted by family member]

Soldiers' Families (1 as not married):

- **William James Allan** (#141847 76th Battalion)
(died since his return to Canada, accepted by family)

Since completion of the initial report in April 2011 we are pleased to report that the watch presented to the widow of Private Ernest Baverstock has been recovered and is now in the collection. The details of how this watch was retrieved and the significance of this watch is detailed in SECTION 7 of this report.

It is interesting to note from this list that some of the key soldiers in the Milton area, who had already died in service, were not on the list as a gold watch recipient (to the family). The most obvious example is Captain Alfred Bastedo, the man who was a key component of the enlistment of many Milton men to the 1st Contingent (*Valcartier PQ, September 22, 1914*). In the months following the release of the initial report on the Gold Watches, we received confirmation that Captain Bastedo was not in Milton in the time prior to the commencement of the war, rather he was in the Ottawa/Pembroke area. It was reported that he immediately returned to Milton to "gather the troops" but he was not present in the prior period, a condition of being awarded a gold watch from the community.

Author's Update of August 2001:

The puzzle of Alfred Bastedo (really the father of the Milton soldiers in the Great War) has been solved. I could not figure out why he did not get a GOLD WATCH given his contribution to the community. I was sure it had to be due to the fact that he was not living in Milton for the 6 months prior to the start of the war, but my presumption was he was at the University of Toronto – as that is what the records seemed to indicate. The problem there was the 3 other lads that were at UofT got watches – so why not Bastedo?

The answer comes in a book “But this is Our War” by Morris, which is referenced in Desmond Morton’s book “When Your Number is Up” (page 9).

It appears that Alf Bastedo was living in Pembroke and so nowhere near Milton at the outbreak of the war. The story tells of Alf leaving his true love ([Grace Craig](#)) and returning to Milton to join his regiment (20th Halton Rifles). As such, Captain Bastedo did not meet the “local residency” condition to receive a gold watch.

The same July 1, 1917 reference also reports that one soldier from Esquesing joined the Milton Soldiers at the presentation, his watch being presented by Councillor Hampshire. As such, this watch is included in the list of “99 watches” presented and is recorded as “off list” **OL** on the spreadsheet. It was the 17th watch presented at the 1917 Dominion Day reception.

- **William Lazenby** (#406568 36th Battalion)
[not a candidate for a gold watch from the Town of Milton, given by Esquesing]

There is a potential conflict in this list; for the “Wm. Hardy” reported in the original newspaper article of July 5, 1917 (*ATTACHMENT #8 – Milton Canadian Champion*). All of the “Hardy” candidates were born in 1879. *William Hardy* of Esquesing was born in December 1879 ([1911 Census](#)) and *John William Hardy* was born in June 1879 ([#422081](#)). There was also an *Edward Hardy* (#138603), born April 1879, who had worked at the Commercial Hotel in Milton (*MRWWI page 180*). The most likely candidate for the “Wm. Hardy”, which is clearly listed as being one of the Gold Watch recipients (**LW**), is the *John William Hardy* who is noted to be a clerk at the railway (perhaps the local CPR office). If it had not been for the absolute listing of Wm. Hardy as a watch recipient, he would not have been included. One Hardy soldier did get a watch; I just cannot positively confirm which one.

You can read the complete review on the Dominion Day festivities and presentations from the local newspaper report “DOMINION DAY IN MILTON” (*ATTACHMENT #8 Milton Canadian Champion, July 5, 1917*), an extract of which follows:

Next came the presentation of the watches, by Mayor Earl, for Milton and Councillor Hampshire, for Esquesing, with appropriate remarks and explanations in each case. The returned Milton soldiers who answered their names were, Sgt. Wm. McKay, Corp. Jack Lecocq and Ptes. A. Charlton, Arthur Gough, R. Sellers, Arthur Mays, John Paterson, Wm. Hardy and Albert Palmer. All were cheered, particularly Pte. Paterson, who left a leg in France, but looked well and cheerful.

A number of other soldiers arrived home in 1917, such as Maddocks, Appleyard and Cottier whose arrivals are noted in the paper in early July. The case of Wilfrid Appleyard is of particular interest to this gold watch investigation as it clearly notes that residents of Milton Heights did not qualify for a watch “ANOTHER SOLDIER HOME” (ATTACHMENT #9 *Milton Canadian Champion, July 12, 1917*). The key part of that report is quoted as follows:

On Tuesday afternoon Mayor Earl received notice by telegram from Pte. Cottier, late of the 76th Batt., that Pte. Wilfred Appleyard would arrive here from Toronto by the 6:15 p.m. train. Pte. Appleyard is a son of John Appleyard, of Milton Heights, had never been a citizen of Milton and there was no gold watch coming to him from the corporation, but he is well known here, lost one of his legs through a wound received on the Somme on Sept. 18th last and the Mayor and other members of the Reception Committee that his heroism and self sacrifices should be recognized by a special reception, of which notice was spread quickly as possible.

Prior to the review of that information, Wilfrid Appleyard had been on the list of Milton candidates to receive a watch, however he is now marked “off list” **OL**. In lieu of the watch, Private Appleyard received a sum of money collected by the citizens. It is interesting to note from the newspaper report that Private Appleyard was only 15 years old when he attested to the 76th Battalion and was 17 years old when he returned to Milton Heights – leaving a leg in France.

The Appleyard situation most certainly confuses the investigation into the receipt of the gold watches, as his Attestation Papers clearly state that he was born in Milton and that his next-of-kin are resident in Milton. There are numerous other Attestation Papers with similar information provided – so how does one tell whether it is “Milton West” or “Milton Heights” if the AP just says “Milton”? Clearly apparent now is that he was from Milton Heights and did not qualify.

3.4 The Newspaper Lists of 1919

Initially it was believed that those who perished prior to the award of the watches would not receive the gold watch as it was to be a homecoming memento. This had been suggested in the newspaper accounts of the July 1917 Dominion Day presentations, as previously referenced in *Attachment #8*. Historical reports also suggested that the watches were to be given only to the men of urban Milton, as described in the documents that have been recovered. The analysis of whether this was the case, or not the case, bounced back-and-forth during the investigation of this puzzle.

It was not until the Town of Milton Council Minutes of August 18, 1919 were analyzed that the initial assumptions were brought into question. The minutes *suggested* that the list had to be expanded to include not only those who were in the Milton urban core at attestation, but also those Milton based men who were working outside of Milton at the time of attestation, and the widows of those who died in service. It has been confirmed from the published lists that the widows or families of the deceased, of the “qualified Milton Soldiers” did receive the gold watches – but only if that was prior to July 1, 1917. Here is what was actually passed by Town Council in August 1919 (meetings on August 5th, 11th, 12th and 18th). The full transcript has previously been referenced as Attachment #2:

On motion it was resolved unanimously that those who were bona fide residents of the Town of Milton at the time of their enlistment and who had served their King and Country overseas be recommended to the Council as eligible to receive watches. The list of names were then taken and each name considered individually under the above resolution.

The Committee then adjourned to meet Thursday, Aug. 14 when the lists were again revised and are hereby submitted for your approval. It was also resolved under motion to also submit the names of nursing sisters and men who although not qualifying for watches under the general rule, we would recommend for some recognition from the Town of Milton, although their work took them from the Town prior to enlistment, yet their families and interests were still in the Town. Some having returned to Milton to enlist. It was also recommended that the widows of those having made the supreme sacrifice be presented with watches.

The reference in the August 18th minutes once again raises the issue of the widows or family of a fallen soldier receiving a gold watch. In the newspaper article of June 28, 1917 (see Attachment #7) it had been decided that they would go ahead with the 1917 widow presentations but that all future allocations to fallen soldiers would be by way of a monetary donation to the monument at the end of the war. The 1919 article suggests that the 1917 decision had either been forgotten or overruled. There is always the possibility that the 1917 decision was lost in the paperwork and that the 1919 presentations would continue in the same format as 1917. It appeared that would be the case. Follow-up review of the newspaper accounts of the awards in 1919 does not offer any additional evidence. This does not alter the requirement that the fallen must have qualified as Milton Soldiers, so not all soldiers recorded on the local cenotaphs or church memorials received a watch. It is already known that a number of families of the recorded fallen soldiers did not receive watches at the 1917 presentations.

In August 1919, the Town of Milton Council report was the subject of an article in the local newspaper (ATTACHMENT #10 *Milton Canadian Champion*, August 21, 1919). The resolution of that meeting was as follows:

At the adjourned meeting held yesterday evening it was decided to hold the soldiers' celebration on Saturday, Sunday and Monday September 13, 14 and 15. Monday will be the big day. There will be sports for which good prizes will be put up, four baseball clubs in a tournament and four tag of war teams. Admission to grounds 25c and 15c soldiers and their families free. The soldiers will be banqueted. Watches will be presented to Milton soldiers who have not already received them. Full particulars later.

The details of the plans for the Soldier Days of September 1919 were reported in late August 1919 (ATTACHMENT #11 *Milton Canadian Champion*, August 28, 1919).

The committee appointed to arrange for Milton's big three day event for returned soldiers, September 13th 14th and 15th reported progress at a meeting held on Tuesday evening. Highly satisfactory progress is being made, but it is not far enough advanced for the announcement of full particulars. Among the attractions will be the band of the 164th Battalion, baseball matches, athletic sports, for which liberal prizes will be given, concerts and dancing on the pavement.

Watches will be presented to Milton soldiers and signet rings from Trafalgar Council to the Trafalgar men who did not get them at Oakville. All the men will be given a banquet.

The Milton Champion reported in September 1919 that there were objections, where it was stated that the men to receive the watches must be residents prior to enlistment, otherwise the money must come from elsewhere - *not municipal funds* (ATTACHMENT #12 *Milton Canadian Champion, September 4, 1919*). This was based on a legal opinion received dealing with legislation which controlled the use of municipal funds. This article also mentions **four minor boys employed outside of town**, which have not yet been identified by name. They may be one of those that appear on the lists that we have developed or they may be others. That part of the puzzle has not yet been solved. An extract of that decision appears here:

Owing to objections having been raised to the town council's resolution providing for the presentation of gold watches to Milton soldiers returned from overseas, particularly to the provision that those getting the watches must have been bona fide residents of the town at the time of enlistment that the council has obtained a legal opinion.

An article the following week (ATTACHMENT #13 *Milton Canadian Champion, September 11, 1919*) indicated that “*all that can be bought with municipal funds will get theirs*”, after which it dealt with the issue of the **4 minor boys** who were Milton lads but employed out of town. The key point noted in the article states:

The Town Council met last Monday evening to consider the watch presentation, so that for all for whom they can be bought with municipal funds may get them. The cases of four boys, minors who had been employed outside of the town for a short time before enlistment were considered. They will get watches. This should, and no doubt will, end all dissatisfaction. The council has stretched its authority to the limit for the benefit of the boys.

As of this date, I do not yet know who the four minor boys were that are referenced in these reports. I am not even sure that we can rely on the ages shown in the records, as so many you men lied about their age – and even their name – to find a place in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. It was, as they all thought, to be a great adventure!

The Milton Canadian Champion archives of September 1919 provide the name of five (5) other men, and mention of four (4) yet unidentified minors who received watches. Sergeant William Dewar is listed in the Milton Champion (ATTACHMENT #14 *Milton Canadian Champion, September 18, 1919*). The complete article is provided in the attachment, from which the following has been extracted:

The most interesting event was the presentation of gold watches to 99 veterans who were citizens of Milton 6 months before enlistment. It came off on a platform next to the grand stand, on which were Mayor Earl, the Reeve and councillors. The mayor gave an opening address, in which he spoke of the splendid services of the men and the sacrifices they had made, some of them coming home permanently disabled. He added a few words of sympathy for the widows, dependents and relatives

of the fallen heroes. There was much cheering, as each man showed himself. In band Sergt. W. F. Dewar's case it was particularly enthusiastic.

The September 18th report positively identifies one of the 99 men to receive a watch as the band leader of the 164th Infantry Battalion, leaving 98 others to identify. He joins the ranks of the "listed watches" LW:

- **Band Sergt. William Foster Dewar** (#663085 – 164thth Battalion)
(Milton Champion of September 18, 1919)

The other four men that we can identify as receiving watches at the September 1919 ceremony come not from their listing as recipients but rather when Smith, Maguire, Heath and Sugden authored the thank you letter that was published in the local paper (*ATTACHMENT #15 Milton Canadian Champion, September 25, 1919*). A short extract from their letter provides reference to the receipt of the watches:

*Dear Sir – Kindly allow us to thank the ladies, Mayor, Reeve, town council, "our members" and all the good people of Milton, including the band, for the magnificent reception accorded us by our home town and for the **beautiful and valuable watches**, which we shall always use and treasure as heirlooms of your faith in us and in gladsome remembrance of the part we were privileged to take in representing Milton on the Front Line, shoulder to shoulder, comrades all, with the rest of the Empire's soldiers, sailors and nurses.*

We can now add the other 4 names to the 1919 confirmed "listed watches" LW:

- **Edward. Lancelot Hill Smith, M.M.** (#663508 – 164thth Battalion)
(Milton Champion Letter of September 25, 1919)
- **Bert John Maguire** (#663105 – 164thth Battalion)
(Milton Champion Letter of September 25, 1919)
- **Harold Heath** (#663096 – 164thth Battalion)
(Milton Champion Letter of September 25, 1919)
- **Percy Sugden** (#663116 – 164thth Battalion)
(Milton Champion Letter of September 25, 1919)

Bert Maguire's watch adds to the puzzle and the consideration of "exceptions to the rule", as although he is listed as living in Milton, he is clear on his Attestation Paper ([Bert's AP #663105](#)) that he is a farmer (*perhaps not living in Urban Milton – but possibly boarding in Milton and working on a farm*). At the end of the war, corresponding to the time of the watch presentations, the Maguire family is resident in Toronto, another exception to the rule. I can only presume that the four men who authored the letter from Toronto were working or students in Toronto in September 1919.

The location of Bert Maguire may be an important clue as to whether there is a difference with the papers that say they are a "farmer", with a MILTON address versus those that are farmers with a Rural

Route (RR#) address. It is difficult to separate those saying "Milton" on their attestation papers from "Milton West", "Milton East", and rural Milton. Some appear even to have come from "Milton Heights". This may be a part of the puzzle that has no solution.

John Finley McCallum, also a farmer whose AP says "Milton" is reported to have received his watch at a soldiers' picnic in Esquesing in June 1919. There is a [John McCallum](#) of that age on the [1911 Census](#). Perhaps we cannot dismiss farmers from the list so quickly? Did some of them live in town and go to work in the rural areas?

The 1919 list of 99 watches (not the **118**) was pared down to **5** known **LW** and **94** unknown. It became quite clear that the reference to 99 watches referred only to the 1919 presentations, thus the earlier analysis stands. That is two (**2**) issued in December 1915, sixteen (**16**) issued in July 1917, and ninety-nine (**99**) in September 1919, for a total of **117** watches to the end of 1919. But wait there is one (**1**) more – for a total of **118** watches.

3.5 The Final Listed Recipient of 1922

The last known, perhaps the final recipient, was Earnest Stewart (*MRWWI page 196*). Stewart did not receive approval for his watch until a March 1922 Council Meeting. The Bradley and Stewart watches confirm that soldiers listed as "**Milton West**" were qualified recipients. Earnest Stewart now joins the "listed watch" **LW** category:

- **Wm. Earnest Stewart** (#11030 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario)
(Milton Remembers WWI, page 196 – Milton West)
(Milton Council meeting of March 1922)

At the end of 1922, which we believe to be the last recorded watch presentation, the total number stands at **118** watches issued. If we count the three (**3**) watches that are known to exist in 2011 (*Charlton, Waters and Regan – who are not in the other lists so are 1919 recipients*), then the tally is **27** of **118** watches known by fact rather than by analysis:

1. Family or Archives known to have watches in 2011	3
2. Early Awards of 1915	2
3. Listed in Milton Canadian Champion for July 1917	16
4. Listed in Milton Canadian Champion 1919 Article	1
5. Listed in Milton Canadian Champion 1919 Letter	4
6. Late Award in Milton Canadian Champion 1922	1
7. TOTAL CONFIRMED IN ABOVE LIST	27

On the spreadsheet analysis of the soldiers and watches the total of **27** is shown as the sum of the known “Gold Watches” **GW** (3) plus the “Listed Watches” **LW** (24). The changes to these KNOWN versus LISTED watches in now detailed in the new SECTION 7 of this report, all facilitated by the input of Milton Residents in response to this project.

There is mention of another early watch (*MRWWI page 196*) which was initially thought to be one of the first Milton watches presented but it is now clear that the Harry Smith watch was from Campbellville, which was not part of the Town of Milton circa 1919.

- **Harry Smith** (#142297 76th Battalion)
[Milton Remembers WWI pages 131 and 196]

As such, we cannot include all of the men (*the Anna Rudy letter of February 8, 1917*) who were reported as 29 of Milton’s heroes.

That concludes the analysis of the men, widows and families of men that we know received or have watches. At this point a lot of the selection criteria are now known, but there are many inconsistencies or questions that still remain. The key ones are:

1. Did any more widows get watches after the July 1, 1917 Dominion Day presentations? The newspaper articles and council minutes of 1917 suggested that presentations to widows and families would be suspended after the 1917 presentations, which was subsequently changed in the minutes and reports in August 1919. If we accept that report, the widows and families of “qualified Milton soldiers” who had served overseas and paid the ultimate sacrifice were to receive watches. That did not appear to be the case.
2. What were the geographic conditions that set the boundaries of “*Urban Milton*” in 1919? There is ample evidence to exclude anyone from Milton Heights and to include anyone from Milton or Milton West. The soldiers’ attestation papers are often not clear as to whether the term “Milton” is used interchangeably to mean any one of the Milton communities of that era. There was no mention of Milton East. The 1877 Historic Atlas of Halton County provides some guidance as to the boundaries of Milton West, but it offers little guidance as to what is Milton Heights and more importantly the areas of Milton with Rural Route (RR#) addresses. For now, the Milton Height soldiers have now been moved to the “*off list*” category **OL**.
3. What do we do about the farmers, many of whom give their address as “Milton”? We know some “farmers” received watches. There were suggestions, perhaps not verified, that if you had to take a horse and buggy to church, then you were not a Milton resident. What about young men that lived at home with their parents, or lodged in Milton centre, yet worked on the farms as labourers? It may be that we have to disregard the occupation stated on an Attestation Paper and use only the address – where it is a clear statement of current residence and not of “next of kin”.

4. Was the Milton community so religiously strict in 1919 that they considered attendance at a local church a condition of being a Milton resident? If your name was not on the church memorial, were you excluded from the process? There is no proof that such a restriction was put in place; however in this analysis extra credit has been given to men who meet the minimum criteria and are listed on a local memorial. All men on the Haltonville Cenotaph (*Nassagaweya/Campbellville*) have similarly been excluded **OL** “off list” – unless they are also listed on the Milton cenotaph and there some question as to their residence.

The only possible solution to the next stage of the puzzle was to narrow down the list using the most stringent of the rules to make the primary list. Following which, additional evaluations can be made with “relaxed rules” in a progressive order.

4 Finding the Others

The starting point for the next phase of the investigation is 3 **GW** (known gold watches) and 24 **LW** (listed watches) for a total of 27 positively identified. Having now documented that there were a total of **118 issued** watches, we have **91 missing** names from the list. The next step was to put the remaining **375** known candidate soldiers (*Milton and the immediate area*) into one of three (3) categories:

- **MOST PROBABLE MP:**
meets all the criteria of an urban soldier and it listed on a memorial (church or cenotaph) within the 1919 definition of Milton (i.e. excludes current Haltonville, etc.)
- **LIKELY CANDIDATE LC:**
meets the same criteria of an urban soldier of 1919 Milton but is not listed on one or more of the Milton memorials or the cenotaph
- **POSSIBLE CANDIDATE PC:**
the candidate does not meet all of the criteria, such as stated residence of MILTON or MILTON WEST but may be from the immediate area, includes farmers listed on memorials, is not listed in the 1911 Census of Canada for Milton
- **OFF THE LIST OL:**
the person is definitely off the list for one or more reasons and can only be moved back to one of the other lists if proven to be an “exception to the rule” (which did happen)

The research to find the rest of the Milton soldiers who qualified for their “gold watch” is certainly enhanced by the knowledge available in the records that suggest the criteria for the watch presentation. Finding the names of the rest of the likely recipients meant checking the military records of all the men from Milton (*and the surrounding area*), comparing their information to those that were known commemorative watch recipients. This was by far the greatest challenge to this project, as it required hundreds of hours of reviewing and logging the data. In many cases, multiple sources of data had to be checked, as there were many uncertainties about the origins of the soldiers.

In the initial years of the war the “[Attestation Papers](#)” asked only for the next-of-kin and their address – in the event the soldier was killed. In the later parts of the war, the papers were changed so that it also asked the “*Place of Residence*”. That made it much easier for the evaluation, particularly where we had more names of known recipients in the early days of the war and fewer names later in the process. In those cases, it was often necessary to cross-check the person in the [1991 Census for Halton](#). Where there was a lack of information about the survival of the soldier, we also had to consult the [Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#) to see if they survived. All of the local churches and memorials were reviewed to cross check the names (many of which were incorrectly listed), so that information could be added to the spreadsheet. An on-line system is maintained by the [National Inventory of Canadian Military Memorials](#) (NICMM), for which the project provided up-to-date listings and corrections. (*Note: the corrections have not yet been uploaded and the site currently points to Hamilton and not Milton – a correction notice has been filed*).

The men involved in subsequent stages of the analysis (*there were many*) could be broken down into groups, such as the following:

1. Men who had perished in, or shortly after, the Great War and were commemorated on the Milton Cenotaphs or Church Memorials. Qualified recipients were likely, but not positively, listed on the Victoria Park Cenotaph. Soldiers listed on the Haltonville Cenotaph, although now part of Milton, were unlikely candidates for the gold watches in 1919.
2. Soldiers killed in service after the Dominion Day presentations of July 1, 1917 may not have qualified for watches – there is conflicting evidence. Post 1917 committee minutes, 1919 Council Minutes and award records all seem to conflict. To date, all the evidence suggests that if a soldier was lost in service after the presentations in July 1917 they did not receive a watch. No evidence of any widow or family receiving a watch was found.
3. Many men are listed in the primary reference text “*Milton Remembers World War I and the Men and Women We Never Knew*” (MRWWI – Jim Dills et al, 2006), from which we can create lists of possible candidates in each of the six years covered (1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919). Research on each of these groups has confirmed that not all of these men received a watch, despite the considerable accolades of these men as “Milton Soldiers”. The best example is Captain Bastedo, the leader of the early Milton men – who was not awarded a watch in 1917, despite the award to several others who had perished in the 1915-1916 battles. There is a number of other men in that list (*10 to date including Bastedo – see next section “Candidates Who Paid the Ultimate Sacrifice”*). There are also a considerable number of Milton soldiers who do not appear in the *Milton Remembers* book, possibly because they were not from well-known local families or their names did not appear in any newspaper books. We have now accounted for an additional **39 men** in that list of missing – perhaps more.
4. Groups of men attested in Milton to specific army corps (*infantry battalions*) or army troops (*cavalry, artillery, medical, dental, forestry, railway, etc.*), some of which could be linked to Milton. For example, many of the Milton lads joined the 4th Infantry Battalion (*the early Bastedo*

group that attested at Valcartier in September 1914); the 76th Battalion (MRWWI page 108); or the last group that attested to the 164th Battalion (*the Halton-Dufferin Battalion*). These lists identify many men that have not previously been identified as “Milton Soldiers” in the reference documents. This may be because they were Milton men and not of “Milton Families” so they did not write home to Milton during the war – in fact they may have been forgotten after they left to serve.

It is clear now that your name appearing on a local church memorial or cenotaph did not give you automatic qualification for a gold watch. This is best shown in the case of James Henry Winn #135607, who is listed on the Grace Anglican Church memorial but noted in the reference text (MRWWI page 200) as a “*Milton Old Boy*” who had since moved to Galt. The attestation papers do not mention Galt but rather show Todmorden, a historic area of Toronto.

There were three (3) Winn brothers from Milton in the Great War (*James, Ebenezer, and Norman*). Only the eldest brother, James Henry Winn, is listed on the Grace Anglican Church memorial. The youngest (Norman Dingwall Winn) is listed on the memorial at Knox Presbyterian Church. That seemed odd that brothers would attend different churches but it is clearly recorded in the records. Out of curiosity I checked page 2 of each of their Attestation Papers for their religious affiliations and sure enough James Winn, who attested in July 1915 marked himself as “Church of England” (*Grace Anglican Church*) and Norman Winn in March 1916 marked himself as Presbyterian (*Knox Presbyterian Church*). Just to add to that story, Ebenezer Winn attested as a Methodist (now *St. Paul’s United Church* – formerly a Methodist Church).

4.1 Candidates Who Paid the Ultimate Sacrifice

The evaluation of the candidates that were killed in action, or otherwise died in service during the Great War of 1914-1919, results in some confusion. Some men were known to have received watches, others known not to have received a watch. The rules changed between the gold watch presentations in 1917 as compared to those in 1919.

4.1.1 Soldiers Who Died in the Great War before July 1917

The 1917 list previously presented was initially considered as very important, as it provided confirmation that the widows (or family) of the Milton Soldiers that made the ultimate sacrifice (*killed in action or died of wounds, illness or accident during the war period*) received the commemorative gold watches. Six (6) of these soldiers have already been listed as recipients of the gold watches **LW**:

- **William James Allan** (#141847 76th Battalion)
- **Joseph Dockray** (#142534 21st Battalion)
- **Ernest Baverstock** (#142260 24th Battalion)
- **George Hill** (#46585 15th Battalion)
- **Archie Warren Beard** (#142261 24th Battalion)
- **William Maddocks** (#302221 Field Artillery)

Sadly, William Maddocks although seriously injured by an accident (*kicked by a mule while a blacksmith in France*), was alive at the time of the 1917 presentations and the gold watch was accepted by his

mother. There are two reports of Maddocks injuries in the July 12, 1917 issue of the Milton Canadian Champion. By January 1920, we know that Maddocks was a Town of Milton Councillor, as there are two reports of his continuing illness in the January 15, 1920 of the Milton Canadian Champion. Maddocks died only day's later (January 18, 1920) and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Milton. As his death was a result of an injury sustained in the war and he was deceased prior to August 31, 1921, his death was registered as a war death by the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)*.

There is a distinct list of soldiers who were not presented with a watch at the July 1, 1917 Dominion Day presentations, even though they died prior to that date. The only reason for them not to have received a watch would have been the criteria set by Town Council. Only the men of Milton were to receive a gold watch. The two lists deal with those known to be from Milton and those for which there is no proof they were Milton residents, all of whom died prior to the July 1917 presentations.

Known to be from the Town of Milton: (11 men now shown as *off-list* OL)

- **Alfred Carbert Bastedo** (Captain 1st Battalion)
- **Edward Donnelly** (#57164 20th Battalion)
- **William Graham** (#142530 21st Battalion)
- **James Hamilton** (#142280 24th Battalion)
- **William Garvy Lees** (#11160 4th Battalion)
- **John Clark Murray** (#47905 15th Battalion)
- **Hugh Cameron Sinclair** (#142298 24th Battalion)
- **William Henry Tremblett** (#405451 21st Battalion)
- **Victor Edward Tuxford** (#11152 4th Infantry Battalion)
- **Frederick Walsh** (#348333 12th Brigade CFA)
- **Sydney Thomas Williams** (#11188 4th Battalion)

Probably not from the Town of Milton: (7 men now shown as *off-list* OL)

- **James Stanley Adamson** (#29411 16th Battalion)
- **William Charles Croft** (#140051 20th Battalion)
- **Albert Edwards** (#11128 4th Battalion)
- **Thomas Farries** (#11146 4th Battalion)
- **Charles Edward Gowing** (#47862 15th Battalion)
- **John Jarvie** (#142533 21st Battalion)
- **William John Pollock** (#475994 PPCLI)

Some of these men, such as Edward Donnelly appeared to qualify as a recipient of a watch based on their service and residence address but were not included in the 1917 list. The most logical reason for this appears to be that they were working in Milton (*many at the Brick Plant, P. L. Robertson or the C.P.R.*) but did not have the minimum residency qualification to be deemed a *bona fide* resident of the municipality. As what appears to be employment as a "*rivet heater*" it is unlikely he was away from Milton as a student. Note that Donelly appears later in this report as one of the men on the 1914 list of *Second Contingent Soldiers* (MRWWI page 99).

The case of Victor Tuxford (#11152), who joined the 4th Infantry Battalion with the Bastedo group, is an interesting component of the puzzle, as is Bastedo himself. The widows of these men were not presented with gold watches at the 1917 Dominion Day Celebrations, despite having been killed-in-action the previous year (1916). There may be others in this group that were determined not to be “*Milton Boys*” because their family did not live here at the time, or they were students away from home. To the best of my knowledge, Bastedo was a local boy but he was at the University of Toronto at the time of attestation.

4.1.2 Soldiers Who Died in the Great War after July 1917

Those soldiers, who are not mentioned in any of the lists above, include the following as listed on the author’s [Web Site of Milton’s Great War Soldiers](#), sorted into specific categories relative to qualifications as a gold watch recipient.

The primary exception to this list is WWI Soldier [Alfred James Evans](#). Private Evans was a watch recipient, but he received it in Milton in July 1917 while he was still alive. He died in Milton as a result of his war wounds on June 29, 1925. Because he died after the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (CWGC) “*cut-off-date*”, his death is not recorded as a war death. As per the rules, his grave site is not maintained by the CWGC. In order to provide some credit to Private Evans, I used his grave stone image as the recorded image for the cemetery on the CWGC web site ([Milton Evergreen Cemetery CWGC Photo](#)):

- **Alfred James Evans** (#663090 164th Battalion)
[buried in Milton Evergreen Cemetery – as are others on these lists who died in Canada]

What is suggested from the historical documents is that those who died in service (*killed in action, died of wounds, died of illness, accidental death*) are only included if they received their gold watch on or before the Dominion Day presentations on July 1, 1917. It was proposed that after this date the fallen soldiers would not get a watch. Later reports show a great deal of confusion as to whether or not this recommendation was followed, forgotten about completely, or was enacted. The local newspaper, reporting on the distribution of the watches at the July 1917 Dominion Day presentations summarized the comments made by Judge Elliot: (*ATTACHMENT #8 Milton Canadian Champion, July 5, 1917*).

Judge Elliot, who presided, then gave his opening address. After speaking briefly of the war and Canada’s part in it, he told of the voting of the money by the town council for watches for returned Milton soldiers, explained why it had been determined to present a number of watches on one day, rather than giving them separately and announced that in future, instead of giving watches to relatives of the fallen, money would be set aside for the erection, after the war should end, of a suitable memorial, probably in the park, on which the names of the fallen would be inscribed.

Council Minutes of 1919, as previously referenced as in Attachment #2, suggest the widows will get watches, apparently overruling the July 1917 proclamation. The August 14, 1919 minutes state:

It was also recommended that the widows of those having made the supreme sacrifice be presented with watches.

There was no evidence in any of the documents that were searched, including the archives of the *Milton Canadian Champion*, to suggest that any of the post July 1917 soldiers who died as a result of service in the Great War received a watch.

Those on the author's web site of casualties, that are known to be from Milton and were not previously listed as gold watch recipients were given further analysis. These men died in service after the presentations in July 1917. They are listed here in the event that future research shows that one or more of the widows or families did receive a watch in September 1919.

There are **13** men from Milton who it is believed met the qualification criteria for a gold watch but died after the July 1917 presentations. If the widows or family were presented with a watch, for which there is no absolute proof, these are the men that would have received a watch, but are now filed under the **LC** (*logical candidate*) list. Had these men died prior to the July 1917 presentations they would have received a watch.

- **Melville Bonus** (#663543 4th Battalion CMGC)
- **William Frederick Cartwright** (#663706 PPCLI)
- **Edmund A Cooper** (#3112559 2nd Battalion CGR)
- **John William Crowe** (#3314292 102nd Battalion)
- **Harold James Dent** (#511217 Fort Garry Horse)
- **Meacham Denyes** (#663541 102nd Battalion)
- **Cedric Harrop** (#348281 Canadian Field Artillery)
- **Stanley Lancaster** (#663102 Princess PPCLI)
- **Duncan Paterson** (#11157 4th Battalion)
- **Charles Eric Robertson** (Captain 11th Sqdn RFC)
- **Elmer Lawrence Tuck** (#663497 54th Battalion)
- **Russell Brandon Turrell** (#663124 164th Battalion)
- **Albert Arthur Tuxworth** (#959 Royal Cdn Dragoons)

In addition to those **13** men there were an additional **4** men, who might have been from Milton, but whose exact residence could not be traced. As such, they have been relocated to the **OL** (*off-list*) category. It is unlikely that even if they had died prior to the July 1917 presentations they would not have received a watch.

- **William Pharo Harwood** (#227028 Canadian Light Horse)
- **Thomas Frederick Hilson** (#3314330 87th Battalion)
- **Bertie Cecil Mander** (#11164 4th Battalion)
- **Joscelyn March** (#57893 20th Battalion)

To properly give credit to the men of the Milton area that paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War, the following list exhibits those that appear not to have qualified for the gold watch presentation to the widows or family, as they were not from the specified criteria specified by the 1919 Council. Many of these men are listed on the cenotaphs and church memorials throughout the Milton area. All these names have now been removed as possible candidates for gold watches **OL**:

Jonathan Watts Archer (#40516 BEF Lanc. Fusiliers)	David Edward Harrison (#466781 10th Battalion)
Frederick Baguley (#718192 16th Battalion)	Septimus Harrison (#11092 4th Battalion)
James Edwin Dewey Belt (Lieutenant 20th Battalion)	Harold Kenneth Hartley (#874758 8th Battalion)
John Hastings Blair (#475575 PPCLI)	Arthur Jordan (#164292 16th Coy CMGC)
Charles Molyneaux Carbert (Captain 20th Bn & RFC)	William Kenneth Atkinson Kerns (#663592 102nd Bn)
Clarence Charles Archibald Carton (#769682 4 th CMR)	Lachlan James Kingsbury (#663268 164th Battalion)
Arnold Dunning (#775477 87th Battalion)	Frank Manley (#163877 No. 2 Field Coy Cdn. Engineers)
Albert N Eden (#210301 21st Battalion)	Mark Calvin McIntyre (#324009 5th Brigade CFA)
James Harvey Elliot (#663366 CMGC)	Robert Michael McTague (#675620 2nd Battalion)
Harley Clifton Elsley (#523897 Field Ambulance CAMC)	Roland Alexander Merrett (#737046 43rd Battalion)
Charles Henry Fay (#3446 Canadian Engineers)	James Milne (#126440 73rd Battalion)
Richard Fay (#654329 47th Battalion)	Warrie Joseph Charles Potter (#757873 19th Battalion)
Orville Osbourne Fletcher (#410093 38th Battalion)	Allen Reading (#145504 87th Battalion)
Joseph John Fryer (#3130005 1st Battalion)	William George Roberts (#663522 21st Battalion)
Arthur Hadley (#6805 1st Battalion)	James Ernest Robertson (Officer 27th Battalion)
Edward Charles Hamman (#13749 5th Battalion)	Howard Challen Robinson (#648785 38th Battalion)
Harry Hampson (#126452 54th Battalion)	

4.2 Candidates Listed in the Annual Records or Newspapers

In the next phase of the investigation, the concentration had to shift away from surviving soldiers that were known recipients of watches to those that “*might be candidates*”. Here the emphasis changed from “*proving a watch presentation*” to that of providing reasonable evidence that the candidate did not qualify for a watch. There are **375** soldiers of the Milton area that are candidates for the evaluation. Positive identification has been made of **27** [GW + LW] of the **118** [GW + LW + MP] candidates in the previous parts of this report. That leaves **91** soldiers to be discovered as gold watch candidates. In the next step, the process breaks the soldiers down into groups and starts to evaluate whether they were or were not a candidate to receive a gold watch.

Many of the men listed in these groups come from the collection prepared by Jim Dills of the Milton Historical Society, based on his extensive research of the Great War and its impact on the Town of Milton. The lists that are referenced in this section are not conclusive evidence that the named soldiers received a gold watch (*as compared to the previously noted 1917 lists*). Most of this information came from the records of the *Canadian Champion*, the newspaper of that time – and still the newspaper of modern Milton. Where possible, the author has confirmed the information provided, and sought clarification of the issues, by reviewing the actual articles published in these eras. Many of these important documents are provided in the *ATTACHMENTS* to this report, in their original microfilm form and as transcripts. The reference text from the Milton Historical Society is incomplete as it does not list **38** Milton soldiers that were identified from other resources. Some of these 38 men are gold watch candidates.

The analysis of all of the data cannot be presented within the text of the report. Instead it is demonstrated on the spreadsheet that provides detail on each of the 375 soldiers that are now on the list as potential candidates. With the initial 27 candidates identified the final list was reduced to only 349 unknowns. The spreadsheet list also identifies the 38 soldiers that were *missed* in the reference text.

With 91 more candidates required, the process must remove 258 soldiers as “*not qualified*” in terms of the gold watch presentation criteria. A number of specific cases are presented in this report because their name was recorded in the reference document (*Milton Remembers World War I and the Men and Women We Never Knew*). These cases provide an example of how the selection and rejection process worked during the evaluation of all 375 possible candidates.

The sections that follow demonstrate the details of the selection process, through sorting and classifying the remaining soldiers. The **GW** “*gold watch*” recipients have been positively identified and the **LW** “*listed watch*” recipients reported, which is the **27** men of Milton. That leaves the following to classify:

MP	meets criteria "must be" and on a memorial (except Haltonville)
LC	logical candidate "possible" not on a memorial, strong family ties
PC	possible candidate, not all criteria met, includes farmers on memorials
OL	off the list for one of many reasons

The solution selected was to identify as many men as possible in the **MP** category, then to move down the list as needed into the less supported categories of **LC** and **PC**. That was an iterative process that had to be completed in a number of discrete “runs” through the spreadsheet data. After each run the spreadsheet was saved so that in the future others can follow the process leading to the selection of the gold watch candidates. In some cases a candidate soldier moved between categories more than once, as additional evidence was uncovered supporting or rejecting that person. In some cases this was because the Attestation Paper was not conclusive but then a related document for a brother would provide the additional information (*i.e. the Baylis brothers*). In other cases, a mention in the local newspaper might result in rejection (*i.e. Private Appleyard*).

The specifics of a category were modified during the review process. For example, the **MP** listing criteria was changed in RUN 7 when the 1911 Canadian Census data was added to the project. A soldier who was listed in the 1911 Census of urban Milton was included, even if his name was not on a church memorial.

4.2.1 The Earlier 1914 List

Prior to the Great War, many of the prospective Milton Soldiers were already serving in the local militia unit, the *20th Halton Rifles*. Most of these men were listed as “*guarding the armouries*”, which I suspect are those located in Brampton under the [Lorne Scots Regiment](#). Militia units are army corps units that exist in the country when not at a *state of war* and as such they do not serve outside of Canada. The militia units feed men to military units that are raised to form an active military force for duty outside of Canada. The situation in 1914 is described on their current web site:

The 36th Peel Battalion and the 20th Halton Rifles provided 16 officers and 404 other ranks to the 4th Battalion of the 1st Canadian Division. Subsequently many more men from the two regiments were allotted to the 20th, 36th, 58th, 74th, 76th and 81st Battalions. The 126th, 164th and 234th Battalions were raised exclusively in Peel, Dufferin and Halton Counties. After the war, the 36th Peel Regiment was reorganized becoming the Peel and Dufferin Regiment in 1923. The regimental badge adopted was the Demi Lion which was the personal crest of Sir Robert Peel.

The Halton Rifles was reorganized as the Lorne Rifles (Scottish) in 1931 and permission was received from His Grace the Duke of Argyll, the senior Duke of Scotland, to use his personal crest, the Boar's Head and his personal tartan, the Ordinary Campbell. On 15 December 1936, following a general reorganization of the Militia, the Lorne Rifles and the Peel and Dufferin Regiment were amalgamated to form the present regiment, The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment).

War was declared by Britain on August 4, 1914 (see the author's [MATRIX chronology](#)). The Canadian militia units received orders for preparation on August 6, 1914 and on August 14, 1914 Britain accepted Canada's contribution to the Great War to the *First Contingent*. Just two days later, then Lieutenant Bastedo of Milton had a local group of 30 men prepared to serve. A list of men from the contingent of November 1914 gives the names of 10 men who passed the medical of the 20 who put forth their names. Ten (10) men of the 1st Contingent are listed (*MRWWI page 98*) and a further six (6) conscripts that followed (*MRWWI page 99*). The men of the first contingent that have previously been identified as Milton soldiers who appeared to qualify for the commemorative gold watches were: (now marked as to resolved category)

- Richard Stephen Regan **GW** (author has this watch)
- John Patterson **LW** (on 1917 Dominion Day list)
- J. M. Baylis **MP** (brother of G. W. Baylis of Pine Street, Milton West)
- Edward Donelly **OL** (KIA 1916 and did not receive watch in July 1917 – see previous note)

As reported earlier, Private Donelly probably would have stayed on the “*most probable*” **MP** list had he not been excluded in the 1917 Dominion Day presentation. Although he is memorialized on the Victoria Park Cenotaph, his name is not recorded on any of the church memorials. There are no Donnelly families listed in the 1911 Census for Halton County.

The local soldiers that have not previously been identified and are listed in the reference document (*MRWWI page 98, 99*):

The Milton Men of 1914:

- **Charles Edward Gowing** (#47862 37th Battalion) **OL**
- **Edward Robert Johnson** (#57556 20th Battalion) **LC**
- **Edward James Worringham Stevens** (#57726 20th Battalion) **MP**
- **Frederick Arthur Taylor** (#57563 20th Infantry Battalion) **MP**
- **John Bartholomew Hurley** (#57660 20th Infantry Battalion – 1914, 1919 papers) **PC**
[recruited and living in Milton in 1914 and later re-attested in 1919 in Toronto]
- **John Oswald Stover** (#663133 164th Battalion) – *not “A. Stover” as in MRWWI page 99* **MP**
[older brother of Norman Stover who was drafted in 1918]

Other Local Men (or details unknown):

- **Emery J. E. Bradley** (#83222 4th Artillery Brigade) **LC**
[resident of Hornby and not qualified as a watch recipient]
- **John Frederick Green** (#75658 29th Battalion) **LC**
[additional details unknown 1911 census at hotel in Milton – birth dates don’t match]
- **Edward Hardy** (#138603 75th Battalion – assigned to 20th Battalion) **OL**
[reported to be a visitor to friends in Milton]
- **George Kendall** (#57217 20th Battalion) **PC**
[listed as a “Bridge Builder” perhaps locally employed by the CPR]
- **Joscelyn March** (#57893 20th Battalion) **MP**
[a Newfoundland lad, probably working in Milton – no local family]

I could find no reference to the soldier listed as “*A. Gooch*” as a member of the 1st Contingent, who was listed as one of the 1914 recruits (*MRWWI page 99*). That is probably an error as there was no “*A. Stover*” either; the “*A*” was not an initial (*see above list*). There was a Gooch family living in Milton in 1911 ([Census of Canada](#)) but the son Joseph was too young to have served in the war, as he would have

been only 15 at the time he is listed in 1914. However, many young lads did lie about their name and age to join the army.

4.2.2 The 1915 List

Much like the 1914 list of possible candidates, the 1915 list (*MRWWI page 109*) can only be used to prepare a candidate list of gold watch recipients, based on the reports that they recruited in Milton. From the Milton Canadian Champion the following were listed as 11 sons of Milton, born within or close to town. From the previous lists developed, we can be clear that some of the men are “**OL**” (*off-list*) for failing to meet the minimum criteria. It is certain that any soldiers that met the qualification criteria and were “*killed in service*” in this period (pre-1917) would have received their watch at the 1917 Dominion Day presentations. Those that did not receive a watch obviously did not meet the criteria.

On the candidate list “LW**” (*known recipient that received a watch in 1915*):** **Off the list “**OL**” (*died in service in 1915, no watch awarded at the 1917 presentations*):**

- Lorne Bradley
- Frank Sloane
- Alfred Carbert Bastedo
- William Garvy Lees
- Sydney Thomas Williams

Those not previously recorded that are possible candidates for the commemorative gold watches, as one of the 11 sons of Milton include:

- **K. D. Panton** (Dr./Officer, Canadian Army Medical Corps) **PC**
- **David Edwin Robertson** (Dr./Officer, Canadian Army Medical Corps) **PC**
- **Norman McLeod Campbell** (Officer, Canadian Overseas Railway Corps) **LC**
- **Charles Stuart Jones** (#27208 15th Battalion) **MP**
- **Harold John Inman** (#793 COTC/Student 5 Stationary Hospital) **MP**
[Student born in Milton, on Knox Memorial but parents in Kingston?]
- **John Henry “Jack” McJannett** (#9589 3rd Battalion) **LC**
[obviously a local boy but not recorded on any of the church memorials]

Although the obvious classification is shown for each of these men, I could not initially delete any of these men from the list, as either they had survived the war to this point in time or had not yet returned to Milton by July 1, 1917. As such, these men remained “in limbo” for some time and had to go through the rest of the evaluation process. [*Note: the colour codes were added after the review was complete and were not in place as the review was underway.*]

Listings such as that for Jack McJannett clearly show that the soldier was a local boy; however he would not be ranked as high in the “*2011 gold watch evaluation process*” as he did not have a listing on one of

the local church memorials – an **MP** candidate. The memorial criteria were put in place due to references of local boys “*walking or taking a horse and buggy to church*”. If they did not, you would find him listed as an **LC** (*likely candidate*) instead. In later runs of the evaluation process, I also considered if the family appeared to be local and whether they were in the 1911 Census. If they were on the census (*strong family ties to the community*) or married and now living in Milton, they were kept at a higher ranking than if they appeared to be single and just *working in town*. Many men appeared to be transient and were working for the railway, the brick works or the machining factory (P. L. Robertson).

Some of the men listed in the 1915 references may have had family in Milton but were not true local boys in terms of the gold watch criteria:

- **Arthur King** (#524119 Army Medical Corp Training Depot – Field Ambulance) **OL**
[appears to be visiting sister in Milton, residence is Winnipeg]
- Son of late Harry Watson – linked to Vancouver attestation **OL**
[possible **John Watson**, son of Mrs. Jennet Watson on 1911 Census of Esquesing]
- **Sydney Williams** (#11188 4th Battalion) **OL**
[reference to the “child-like face” of young killed in action at Festubert, memorial service at Grace Anglican Church]

Maddocks, a local blacksmith who later died of his injuries when he returned to Milton, had led the recruitment meeting in 1915. Maddocks not only returned to Milton but he became a Town of Milton Councillor shortly after the war. His deterioration, which ultimately led to his death, is detailed in the local newspaper (*Milton Canadian Champion, January 1, 1920*). If nothing else, all of this tells us he was a gold watch recipient – he met all the requirements, even before he was noted on the 1917 list.

In newspaper accounts of the 1915 era, Anna Ruddy once again called for recognition of the “local heroes”. The men listed at that time included the names of some men not noted on the 1915 list presented above:

Probable 1915 Candidates

- **Albert Edwards** (#11128 4th Battalion) **OL**
[killed in action – memorial service at Grace Anglican –see comments following]
- **William Peaks** (#11148 4th Battalion) **MP**
[wounded – wife and 3 young children in Milton –SPC and GAC memorials]
- **Stuart Jones** (#27208 15th Battalion) **MP**
[wounded]

Other Soldiers Recorded

- **William Garvey Lees** (#11160 4th Battalion) **OL**
[killed in action – from Milton Heights, not a qualified area]

- **Leslie Bradley (#11109 4th Battalion) OL**

[listed as a resident of Hornby and not Milton – wounded 1916 & 1917, returned 1919]

The 1915 reports also refer to the death of James Stanley Adamson **OL**, a 1914 recruit not previously listed but shown as one of the possible candidates listed on the Victoria Park Cenotaph.

Albert Edwards is one of the soldiers that create confusion in the gold watch selection process as he appears to meet the criteria of being a local Milton boy, as his name is on both the Grace Anglican Church (GAC) memorial and the Victoria Park Cenotaph (VPC). He was KIA in May 1915 so if he qualified for a watch he should have been part of the July 1917 Dominion Day presentations. It is important to remember that the memorials did not exist in 1917 so his name may not have been *front and centre* in any listings. As it appears he was a single man, working in Milton as a labourer, he may not have had family standing up for his interests. What is intriguing about his case is that there was a service for him at Grace Anglican Church, so how could they miss him from the list and who organized that memorial service if there was no family in Canada?

It was in 1915 that the call also went out for an addition 1,000 recruits to create the 164th Halton and Dufferin Battalion. The first recruit may have been W. F. Dewar of P. L. Robertson who signed on as the Bandmaster for the battalion. We know he did receive a gold watch.

4.2.3 The 1916 List

The primary addition to the list of 1916 related to the intense recruiting practice for the creation of the 164th Halton-Dufferin Infantry Battalion. Details on the 164th Battalion can be found on the author's [CEF MATRIX](#) web site: (click here for the [164th](#))

Stewart "Overseas" reports that the unit was mobilized at Milton, Ontario with strength of 710 men and was broken up and absorbed by the 8th Reserve Battalion to provide reinforcements for the Canadian Corps in the field. Love "A Call to Arms" reports that the 8th Reserve Battalion, with a Central Ontario affiliation provided reinforcements to the 54th, 58th, 102nd and 116th Battalions in France. Meek "Over the Top" notes that the unit was recruited from Halton and Dufferin counties in Ontario and was mobilized in Orangeville, Ontario. It was active in Canada from December 10, 1915 to April 11, 1917 and in England from April 22, 1917 to April 16, 1918. In addition, Meek writes in great detail about the 164th Battalion.

During the latter part of 1915, authority was received from General Hughes to recruit the 164th Infantry Battalion under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Percy Domville of the 13th Royal Regiment, with Headquarters located at Milton, Ontario.

Four companies were to be recruited. "A" and "B" companies were to be from Halton County; while "C" and "D" companies were to be raised in Dufferin County. As recruiting developed, officers were detailed to the various detachments located in the towns of Acton, Burlington, Georgetown, Milton, and Oakville in Halton County; and Grand Valley, Orangeville, and Shelburne in Dufferin County. Recruiting commenced in November, 1915.

During the months of December 1915 and January to April, 1916, recruiting was brisk, and at the end of April, the Battalion had a strength of about 800 all ranks. From that time on it was increasingly difficult to secure men, consequently the 164th Battalion never reached full strength.

In addition to the 164th Battalion, Milton men were also filling the ranks of the 76th Battalion, which had started formation prior to the 164th. To account for these men, the primary *Nominal Rolls* that were to be searched for any men of Milton were now the 4th, 76th and 164th Infantry Battalions. The 4th Battalion was the only unit that actively served in the Great War as part of the 1st Infantry Brigade, 1st Canadian Division. Men that joined the 76th were dispersed into other active units as replacements, often passing through a Reserve Battalion for training. Some men never left Canada, such as Private Kingsbury #[663268](#) of Campbellville, who died in a tragic accident while training at Camp Borden in Ontario.

Many Milton men, already serving with active units in France, were reported to have died in the great *Battle of the Somme* of September 1916. The Dills reference text mentions a few that have been previously listed and others that are new candidates for the gold watch evaluation (i.e. Campbellville men such as McPhail and Carbert are not listed). We can identify those that qualified to receive a watch, versus those that did not, as they would have received a watch at the July 1917 presentations:

Already Listed as Killed in Action

- **James Hamilton** (#142280 76th Battalion) **OL**
[Milton Heights – killed in action]
- **Edward Donnelly** (#57164 20th Battalion) **OL**
[Milton West – killed in action]
- **Fred Walsh** (#348333 Royal Canadian Horse Artillery) **OL**
[Milton West – killed in action]

Probable 1917 Candidates

- **John McLaughlin** (#142287 76th Battalion) **OL**
[Milton Heights – wounded]
- **William Appleyard** (#142254 76th Battalion) **OL**
[Milton Heights – wounded]
- **George Kenneth Coxe** (#663589 164th Battalion) **MP**
- **John Russell Peacock** (Lieutenant, 164th Battalion) **MP**
[Milton Recruiting Officer for 164th Battalion]

This list clearly shows that just because a soldier is identified in the reference text “*Milton Remembers World War I*”, it does not mean that the soldier was a candidate for a gold watch. There are **335** men listed in that book and at least **39** not recorded in the book, so that means that of the **375** soldiers listed on the spreadsheet there are **257** that did not receive a watch.

4.2.4 The 1917 List

The 1917 list of men are primarily those that received the gold watch at the July 1, 1917 Dominion Day presentations. That covered the Milton soldiers that had survived the war to that date, as well as those that had paid the ultimate sacrifice. As noted previously, the 1917 list was very important as it also eliminated men that “*might have been watch candidates*” but were eliminated for one reason or another. That evaluation was of significant value in determining the extent to which the gold watch selection committee(s) enforced the criteria. It appears that in some cases they were quite strict (i.e., no watch to Bastedo).

As noted elsewhere, there are also questions why soldiers who were ultimately listed on *Church Memorials and Municipal Cenotaphs*, did not receive a gold watch? How good were the records in the years during the war and how much influence came to play on the candidate selection process? Were the likes of Private Edwards intentionally left off the list or was it inadvertent that they never got on the list? It is also important to keep in mind that the church memorials and cenotaphs were created after the presentation of the gold watches. They may have kept an ongoing record but the selection committee unlikely had that list in 1917 or 1919. Certainly they did not know which names were to be inscribed on the cenotaph. That in itself is another story, as there is little information to indicate how a candidate was selected to go on the cenotaphs. One would think that if a Milton soldier had earned a spot on the Victoria Park Cenotaph then that should have garnered a watch presentation to the widow or family in 1917 (perhaps even in 1919) – but that was not the case. Some families of soldiers lost in service were presented with watches and have the family name on the cenotaph; some who received watches are not on the cenotaph; and lastly some who did not receive a watch are on the cenotaph. There appears to be little or no consistency within the selection processes.

Where at all possible the author returned to the microfilm archives of the *Milton Canadian Champion* of the Town of Milton records to look for the original reports, letters or articles. Some of the names recorded in these reports are not exactly correct, in fact some are a bit misleading, but with this information, the author was able to track down many of the soldiers determine if they met the criteria for the gold watches.

Using the above information, the names were checked against all the soldiers known details available from the newspaper postings, the 1911 Census, and individual Attestation Papers. Once that evaluation had been completed the total of known persons rose to sixty-three (63). That excluded Privates Lazenby and Hardey, (*the Esquering Recipients*) and the 4 minors not identified. That number was not “fixed in time” but rather is provided as an indication of the increase in the number of “possible candidates” as the search process continued.

The list that also included Milton Soldiers that are “*likely candidates*” for a Gold Watch for which there is no absolute proof that they received a watch, was as high as 167 candidates. From that point forward the project had to be redirected at eliminating those candidates that may not have met the 1914-1919 selection criteria. That proved to be a tougher task than identifying possible candidates!

4.3 Candidates Listed in Battalion Nominal Rolls

All of the military units of the Canadian Expeditionary Force had a “*Nominal Roll of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Other Ranks*” at the time the unit was formed and shipped out. Any nominal roll is “static” in that it applies only to the date on which it was created, as the roll changed as men were lost in battle, discharged, transferred or otherwise depleted from the ranks. As some men left, new men arrived and the nominal roll was revised. In this investigation, the original nominal roll at the time of embarkation from Canada was examined to check which men were listed with a particular unit and what details were provided. Men who may not have been mentioned in the “*Milton Remembers World War I – The Men and Women We Never Knew*” might be listed in a nominal roll with a Milton connection. To be clear, not all nominal rolls of 260 infantry battalions units were checked, only those that had specific ties to Milton. Similarly, there was no check of the “named battalions” such as the RCR, PPCLI, or the CMR, nor were the Army Troop units checked (Forestry, Railway, Engineers, Medical, etc.).

4.3.1 Candidates from the Bastedo Group of Recruits of 1914 & 1915

If all thirty 30 (*Milton Champion* says 37) of the men who joined in Milton with [Lieutenant Bastedo](#) were part of the list (4th Battalion #10051 – 1200), that would be a large number of watch candidates. Some of those men were from other local communities (*i.e. Norval, Acton, Brampton, Georgetown, Oakville – some even Toronto where Bastedo was at UofT*) so they have already been removed from the list. Many of the Bastedo men served with the 20th Halton Rifles, and many subsequently attested to the [Canadian Expeditionary Force](#) (CEF) at the main base in Valcartier (Quebec) on September 22, 1914.

In the early stages of the evaluation it was expected that any man that had attested with Bastedo and had either returned to Milton or was killed in service prior to July 1, 1917 (*the Dominion Day presentations*) would have been accounted for in the generated list of watch recipients. The missing component was any man that had attested as part of this group and had survived and was still serving in an overseas capacity. Until they were eliminated, they stayed on the list. As the evaluation progressed, it became evident that although the Bastedo group was very much Milton based, a number of those men did not meet the minimum qualification for a gold watch (*i.e. out of town, not a local resident, attending school away from town, casual labour in town, etc.*).

There is no evidence that Bastedo’s widow or family received a watch, despite my initial presumptions that any and all exceptions would have been made in 1917 or even 1919. To me it seemed logical that such an important member of the community would have received that level of recognition, regardless of minor inconsistencies with the selection process. Lieutenant Bastedo may have missed out on his watch because he was a student at the University of Toronto when the war broke out, thus not exactly a resident of Milton at that time. This is what is known about the soldier:

- **Alfred C. Bastedo** (Lt. 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion HQ Central Ontario) **OL**

The Roll of Honour of the University of Toronto makes note of thirty-three (33) Milton men who enlisted with Lieutenant Bastedo (*later Captain Bastedo*):

ALFRED CARBERT BASTEDO April 30, 1886—April 23, 1915

Captain, Fourth Battalion.

Son of John M. Bastedo; b. Milton; ed. Milton P.S. and Contn. Sch.; University College, 1911-14, B.A. 1915; Tennis colours; 20th Regt., Capt.

In the vacation at the end of his third year he joined the First Contingent, enlisting with him thirty-three men in Milton, and was appointed as Captain to the 4th Battalion. He went overseas that autumn and reached France in February 1915. At the second battle of Ypres he was killed near St. Julien in the counter-attack that was made on the morning of April 23rd. He was one of the first members of the University to fall in the war, and his degree was conferred after his death. Buried north of Ypres.

Later in the review process it became clear that if Bastedo was to have been given a watch, his widow or family would have been presented with this at the Dominion Day celebrations on July 1, 1917. That, plus the fact there is absolutely no mention of Bastedo getting a watch, suggests that he was not included on the list. It is my understanding that his family was very much a “Milton Family” but the rules were that the candidate had to be living in Milton for the 6 months prior to attestation. If Lieutenant Alfred Carbert Bastedo had been at the University of Toronto, he would not have qualified – as in those days I have to presume he did not commute daily from Milton.

The other possible candidates for the Bastedo group of the 4th Battalion would be those listed below (22 initially listed), any of which can be delisted; as was Bastedo; if it is shown they are not part of the gold watch group. Many of these men came from the 20th Halton Rifles and some from other militia groups. It appears they came from many areas in support of the call from Lieutenant (*later Captain*) Bastedo.

In looking at the lists of the Bastedo men, there is some question as to the boys from “Rural Milton”, such as Septimus Harrison – although he is initially on the “unlikely” list. Some were also KIA, DOW etc. and may not have qualified, as not all of those “Killed in Service” prior to July 1, 1917 received a watch. We cannot presume that they received their watch after July 1917 if they were missed in the 1917 Dominion Day list. If Bastedo is off the list, and he was clearly someone of great importance to the community, we have to wonder about many other soldiers in his group.

There is no alternate conclusion other than if they were not included in the 1917 presentations then they were automatically excluded from the 1919 presentations. These men are listed on page 102 of *Milton Remembers WWI* as 1915 Milton Contribution so that may confirm those men out of the Bastedo list: (marked as to their status in the selection process as of this date)

- Alfred Carbert Bastedo **OL**
- K. D. Panton **PC**
- David Edwin Robertson (Dr.) **PC**
- Norman McLeod Campbell **LW**
- William Lorne Bradley **LW**
- Frank Sloane **LW**
- Charles Stuart Jones **MP**
- Arthur King **OL**

- Harold John Inman **MP**
- Jack McJannett **LW**
- John (?) Watson **OL**

4.3.2 Possible Milton Soldiers from the 4th Battalion Nominal Roll

A large number of men who had served with Lieutenant Bastedo and the local militia unit (20th Halton Rifles) attested *en masse* with Bastedo. A great number of these attested at Camp Valcartier, Quebec on September 22, 1914. Valcartier was the largest of all the assembly areas that was specifically built to accommodate the assembly and training of soldiers of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. From there they would be shipped to England for additional training.

Some of Bastedo's men are already known to us as a recipient of a gold watch, as previously reported:

- **Frank James Sloane** (#10941 – 13th Regiment and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **LW**
[Milton]
- **Ernest William Stewart** (#11030 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **LW**
[Milton West]
- **Lorne Bradley** (#11083 – 20th Regiment Halton and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **LW**

Other men that attested to the 4th Infantry Battalion from Milton, probable candidates for the commemorative gold watch are: (*REFERENCE – Nominal Roll of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men, 4th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force*)

- **Robert Sellars** (#10974 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **LW**
[Milton West]
- **George Walter Baylis** (#11108 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **MP**
[Milton West]
- **Howard Cannon** (#11117 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **PC**
[Milton West]
- **William Garvie Lees** (#11160 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **OL**
[Milton Heights] [KIA]
- **William Henry Peaks** (#11148 – xxth Regiment 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **MP**
[Milton West at the time – but rest of family in Toronto, see pg. 191 Milton Remembers WWI]
- **Duncan Paterson** (#11157 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **MP**
[Milton West – also a brother John who enlisted in Milton, not yet located, pg. 191 Milton Remembers WWI]

- **Herbert Sheridan** (#10906 – 60th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **PC**
[no AP so no details but Nominal Roll says Milton West]
- **Sydney T. Williams** (#11118 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **OL**
[Milton West]
- **James Dockray** (KIA) (#11344 – 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **OL**
[Milton Heights – see also brother **Joseph** that was KIA, Milton Remembers WWI page 175]

Men that are **possible** candidates because they are mentioned elsewhere as a Bastedo man:

- William Henry Dymott (#11125 – 4th Battalion) **PC**
[Milton Remembers WWI page 176]

Men that are **unlikely** candidates based on 4th Battalion Nominal Roll and address: (**Not on List**)

- **James Ballantine** (20th Regiment and Captain “E” Coy, 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[Georgetown]
- **James Murray McKinley** (20th Regiment and Lt. “E” Coy 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[no AP so no details – Toronto on Nominal Roll but so does Bastedo, not on Uoft list]
- **Reginald Van Evan Conover** (20th Regiment and Lt. “E” Coy 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[Brampton]
- **William Best** (#11106 – 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[no Canadian address provided] – see also John Best #800032
- **Charles Grieve** (#11184 – 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[only addresses are for Montreal]
- **Septimus Harrison** (#11092 – 4th Bn Central Ontario) **OL**
[Moffatt, which is west of Haltonville on 15 Sideroad]
- **Charles Reid** (#11149 – 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[Hamilton]
- **Alfred William Toon (Toone)** (#11098 – 20th Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[a “Brass Finisher” so perhaps at P. L. Robertson? – not in Milton Remembers WWI]
- **Frederick Wills** (#11186 – 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[Acton]
- **George O. Brown** (Lt. 20th Regiment Halton Rifles and 4th Battalion Central Ontario) **NOL**
[Norval]

4.3.3 Candidates from Recruitment to the 164th Infantry Battalion (Halton-Dufferin)

This report has previously noted that many men of Milton attested to the 164th Infantry Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the period of December 10, 1915 to April 11, 1917. Thereafter the unit embarked for England for final training and the ultimate break-up of the unit to provide reinforcements to other units in the field. The Great War of 1916 was not kind to the survival rates of soldiers in France and Flanders, as it experienced the battles of St. Eloi and Mount Sorrel in the spring of 1916 followed by the deadly Battles of the Somme in the fall of 1916.

The list of Milton men who attested to the 164th Infantry Battalion is extensive. Out of that list we have the men in the following categories:

LW	listed watch recipient (see report details)	5
MP	meets criteria "must be" and on a memorial (except Haltonville)	39
LC	logical candidate "possible" NOT on a memorial, family ties	18
PC	possible candidate, not all criteria met, plus farmers on memorials	22
OL	off the list, soldier died after July 1, 1917 presentations	22

That total accounts for **106** men of the **120** men listed as recruits of the 164th Infantry Battalion. The other **14** men are listed as "farmers" on the spreadsheet – a group that has not been included in the "Gold Watch Candidates" as it is presumed that they lived outside the Town of Milton. The final few men that make up the list of gold watch candidates may come from this "*list of farmers*", as in some cases the men (boys) may have been labourers on the farms but living in Milton.

At this point in the exercise, the only interest is in those men that were listed (**LW**) as recipients of the watches so are on the list and those that are most probable (**MP**) candidates for the 118 recipients. We can identify these men as follows, as copied from the spreadsheet:

LW List of Soldiers (5):

Maguire	Bert John	663105
Dewar	William Foster	663085
Heath	Harold	663096
Smith	Edward Lancelot Hill	663508
Sugden	Percy	663116

MP List of Soldiers: (39)

Allport	Percy	663314
Armour	Hugh	663077
Bartlett	Thomas George	663315
Childs	James	663587
Coleman	Roy Wellington	663588

Coxe	George Kenneth	663589
Cross	Francis	663299
Davidson	Charles	663365
Denyes	A. Meacham	663541
Eden	Harry	663087
Etherington	James Henry	663089
Evans	Alfred James (died 1925)	663090
Gilbey	Stanley William Hatton	663092
Hawthorne	Russell Bowbere	663095
Jempson	Alfred Earnest	663100
Kentner	Amos	663597
<u>Lancaster</u>	Stanley	663102
Lecocq	Charles Manger	663103
Maguire	John Thomas	663537
Marshall	Charles	663106
McKechney	Harry Emerson	663109
Merrett	Percy Edward	663107
Millard	Alan William Noel	663663
Peacock	John Russell	Officer
Proctor	George	663114
Robertson	Stewart Beatty	663115
Sherwood	Arthur Reginald	663117
Smillie	George Fulton	663118
Stover	John Oswald	663133
Todd	John Lormer	663119
Torry	Joseph Sherman	663120
Tough	William Ambrozo	663121
<u>Tuck</u>	Elmer Lawrence	663497
<u>Turrell</u>	Russell Brandon	663124
Warbey	James Thomas	663233
Wheeler	Frederick John	663129
Whitehead	Charles	663263
Wilkinson	Clarence Edward (student)	663127
Wilson	Alexander	663128

All of these men are included in the proposed list of the **118** candidates for the gold watches.

5 The Final Spreadsheet Analysis

The final spreadsheet analysis of all of the candidates was completed in April 2011 using all of the information available from the archives (*microfilm, paper and digital*). Rather than assume that

everyone knows where to get this information and how to use it, I have provided a brief explanation of each source and the benefits it gave to this project.

The intent at this stage was to reproduce the process that took place **96 years** after the presentation of the first gold watch in 1915 and **89 years** since the last gold watch was presented in 1922. The critical, and probably never to be known component, that was not available in the 2011 analysis was the family and political influence that was added to the selection process in that 7 year period from 1915 to 1922. If one is to “*read between the lines*” in the newspaper accounts it is obvious that recommendations were made and then they were abruptly changed and final selections were proposed and then exceptions were introduced. It is unknown how many of the “exceptions” were granted, if any. The fact that Captain Bastedo’s family never received a watch makes me suspect that no exceptions were granted.

5.1 Building the Spreadsheet

The first step in building the spreadsheet was the identification of all of the soldiers that were even reasonable candidates for the gold watch selection process. The starting point was a list of names of the Milton Soldiers that was provided by *Annette Fulford of the Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group (CEFSG)* through her access to Ancestry.ca listings. An early review of this list indicated that it contained a simplified listing of many of the Milton Soldiers with key information (*Name, Birthdate, Residence, and Relative*) that could be easily digitized.

Part of the simplification of this project was the use of digital means to reproduce material and convert it to a readily useable form. In the early stages, for example, Annette’s list was digitized using Nuance Software so that all of the information did not have to be re-entered into the spreadsheet (*Microsoft Excel*). Optical Character Recognition (OCR) was used in many parts of the process to convert modern lists and information, as well as newspapers for the early 1900’s into text that could be incorporated into the project spreadsheet or report.

Once the initial list of Milton Men had been created, the project focused on using all the information that is available from the Milton Historical Society in the *R. David Albert Turner Collection*. This report which was donated to the MHS in May 2009 contains a detailed listing of many of the men of Milton and a succinct summary of their vital information. It includes, among other sources, any information to men listed in the MHS publication *Milton Remembers WWI and the Men and Women We Never Knew*. The Turner document not only contains the listing of the men in the listing “*Those Who served From the Area*”, but a listing of any man mentioned in the body of the text. Added to that listing, is the men who are mentioned on any of the memorials in-and-around the area surrounding Milton. The complete copy of the *Turner Collection* (at the MHS offices) also contains print copies of any of the Attestation Papers of the Milton Soldiers from *Library and Archives Canada – Soldiers of the First World War*. In this project the on-line version of those documents was consulted and the associated hyperlink for that page was added to the spreadsheet.

Determining whether a soldier was a true “*Milton Soldier*” meant several trips to the on-line versions of the Canadian Census from 1891, 1901 and 1911. The most commonly used version was the 1911 Census

of Canada, now available in a fully transcribed digital format through the [Automated Genealogy Project](#). With practice, this web site can be used to quickly find families in the Milton area – each of which is linked to an original hand-written copy of the 1911 census. The census was important to determine whether a family was from Milton, Milton East, Milton West, or Milton Heights – and whether they had resided in Milton before the war (*an original Milton family*). The 1911 Census is the last publicly available census for genealogical research due to the 90 year rule on access to private information. The 1921 Census should be available within the next year. The older versions of the Canadian Census are available in their original format (but searchable) through Library and Archives Canada ([1881](#), [1891](#) and [1916](#) Prairies). The 1901 and 1906 census is on the Automated Genealogy site for the Prairie families only.

Details on the Milton Soldiers who perished in Great War is available on the [Milton Soldiers MHS Web Site](#), which has links to all of their attestation papers, memorials and the details of the action that lead to their death. Where available, that site also documents the local link of the soldier to the Town of Milton. Additional information on soldiers that were not killed in the war, as well as the history of Milton during the Great War is detailed in the reference text of Jim Dills *et al*, also from the Milton Historical Society – [Milton Remembers World War I and the Men and Women We Never Knew](#). Updates to this book are now available, including the names of 39 men not previously identified.

Entering all of the information from these various resources was a significant operation, taking hundreds of hours. Where possible, details were checked and then re-checked against other references. In the case of the newspaper listings, the original (microfilmed) source was reviewed; many of which are now incorporated into the attachments of this report.

There is no question that “*judgement calls*” had to be made during the evaluation process. Whether or not a person should be classified as **MP** (most probably), **LC** (likely candidate) or **PC** (possible candidate) had to be made on the basis of a number of pieces of information and it was not always a clear cut “yes or no” for a specific classification code. Information was taken from each of the primary sources of information described in the following sections, then based on the combined analysis of this information a classification was assigned. Generally the final classification of **OL** (off the list) was an easier decision, as there were usually one or more items that were contrary to the approved system.

In addition to making the judgement calls it was also necessary to try and interpret the “*exceptions to the criteria*”, where it may have been determined that a returning soldier or the family of a deceased soldier should be given special consideration. It may be within this category that errors in the 2011 selection process has been made, as it would be impossible to gauge what considerations may have been made in the 1915-1922 era. It would be unrealistic to assume that there was no influence from the families, the council members or the selection committee. Every returning soldier and every family of a deceased soldier probably wanted a gold watch. What did they do about the soldier that missed the screening process for residency by perhaps only a week? How did they deal with the young lads, perhaps students, which were clearly residents of Milton but were away at their studies? Was a lad who

worked a farm outside of town, but lived with his parents in town, treated differently than another soldier who lived on a farm but worked daily at the Brick Plant, P. L. Robertson or the C.P.R.?

5.2 The Attestation Papers

The complete 2011 selection process would have been greatly simplified if the soldiers' *Attestation Papers* were all of the later form that included the separate question as to the "*present address*".

The primary questions asked on the papers relating to residency were as follows:

Early Attestation Papers:

1. What is your name?
2. In what Town, Township, or Parish, and in what country were your born?
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?

Later Attestation Papers:

1. What is your surname?
- 1(a) What are your Christian names?
- 1(b) What is your present address?
2. In what Town, Township, or Parish, and in what country were your born?
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?
- 4(a) What is the relationship of your next of kin?

As you can see from the above example, the information on the latter forms made the 2011 review process much simpler – *what is your present address*. Not only did we then know that the soldier was from Milton, Milton West, Milton Heights, Hornby, etc.; we also knew more about the next of kin. In that later case, the differentiation between a "Mrs. Soldier" being either a mother or a wife provided a clearer indication as to whether the candidate was established in the community as a family (the husband) or as a dependant (the son). Only knowing that Mom or Dad lived in Milton did not confirm that a son lived there as well.

For the other two categories of registration papers, as they are no longer enlistments, the questions were as follows:

Particulars of Recruit Drafted Under the Military Service Act, 1917

1. Surname
2. Christian Name
3. Present Address
4. Military Service Act letter and number
5. Date of Birth

6. Place of Birth
7. Married, Widower or Single
8. Religion
9. Trade or Calling
10. Name of next-of-kin
11. Relationship of next-of-kin
12. Address of next-of-kin

Officers' Declaration Paper

1. (a) What is your surname?
(b) What are your Christian Names?
2. (a) Where were you born?
(b) What is your present address?
3. What is your date of birth?
4. What is (a) the name of your next-of-kin?
(b) the address of your next-of-kin?
(c) the relationship of your next-of-kin?

In all there were four (4) basic variations to the attestation or enlistment papers. These included the two forms of the standard Attestation Papers, the 1917 MSA (*Military Service Act*) Draft Papers, and the Officers Declaration.

5.3 The Community Memorials

A great deal of significance was paid to the listing of a soldier on what of the Milton Church Memorials as part of the determination of the **MP** (*most probable*) category. The reasoning behind this was the comments found in the research about the importance of a person being a member of the community and separation of those that were likely from urban Milton versus those in the rural areas. Although certainly not fact, it was presumed that the rural residents attended one of the churches in the out-lying areas of the community. The listing of a soldier on one of those other church memorials provided evidence that the candidate was probably not urban.

A similar analysis was used in evaluating the names of soldiers that paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War, if the widow or family was to receive a gold watch at one of the presentations. It was less likely that a candidate that was noted on the Haltonville (Nassagaweya) Cenotaph was a resident of urban Milton than one listed on the Victoria Park (Milton) Cenotaph. Attention also had to be paid to those listed on a cenotaph, without any direct evidence that they lived in Milton, as well as those that were listed on more than one cenotaph. In some cases the person might be listed on another cenotaph well outside the boundary of the County of Halton. We know of one soldier who is listed on the Milton as well as the New Liskeard cenotaph. Others are listed in Oakville and Georgetown cenotaphs.

Having the name appear on the cenotaph does not make the soldier an automatic candidate for a gold watch, in fact it was a secondary screening criteria used only after a soldier had been determined to meet the primary minimum qualifications to be a watch recipient. For example, Alfred Bastedo – the leader of many of the 1914 and 1915 recruits due to his association with the 20th Halton Rifles, is listed on the Milton Cenotaph but was not a candidate for a gold watch. Although the Bastedo family lived in town, Bastedo was not a current resident of Milton – rather it appeared he was a resident of Toronto attending the University of Toronto. Had Bastedo qualified for a watch, the family would have received it at the July 1917 Dominion Day presentations, but they did not.

5.4 Returning Soldiers or the Ultimate Sacrifice

Whether or not a soldier that paid the ultimate sacrifice and was thus killed in service, became one of the most complex issues of the 2011 classification process. To be included in this category, the spreadsheet identified if the soldier was *killed in action, killed in service, died of wounds, or died of illness*.

The differentiation of *killed in action* versus *killed in service* has importance in determining if the person was serving overseas versus one that never left Canada. A clear example of this, although not a Milton man, is the only soldier buried in the Nassagaweya United Church Cemetery. There lies [Private James Lachlan Kingsbury](#), a poor lad that was tragically killed while in training at Camp Borden. A criteria for receiving a gold watch was that the person served overseas, which may primarily apply to France and Belgium, but could also include England, Africa, Siberia, Greece, etc.

Several of the men died of wounds that were the direct result of service in the Great War. In that list we can include:

- John Hasting Blair **OL**
 - Listed on the Haltonville Cenotaph
 - Born in Campbellville, parents home and grave site in Guelph
 - Wounded in battle, ambulance in an accident, pneumonia and death in Canada
- Harold James Dent **OL**
 - Not listed on any local cenotaphs
 - Born in Michigan, lived in Saskatchewan, family from Milton
 - Buried in Milton Evergreen Cemetery
- Albert Edwards **OL**
 - Listed on the Victoria Park Cenotaph
 - Memorial Service at Grace Anglican Church
 - Died of pneumonia in England after suffering a chest wound in battle in Flanders
- Alfred James Evans **MP**
 - Listed on the Victoria Park Cenotaph
 - Wounded during Canada's "Final Hundred Days" during the closing days of the war
 - Eventually died of his wounds in Canada in June 1925

- Not considered a CWGC death as died after August 31, 1921
- Buried in Milton Evergreen Cemetery
- Bertie Cecil Mander **LC**
 - Not listed on any local cenotaphs
 - Wounded several times serving in the period 1915-1917
 - Died of exposure to poisonous gas after the Capture of Hill 70
- Robert Michael McTague **OL**
 - Not listed on any local cenotaphs
 - Family was from Milton but he was living in Drumbo at enlistment
 - Wounded during Canada's "Final Hundred Days" during the closing days of the war
 - Died of wounds to chest and legs without ever leaving France

As this list shows, what might be expected to be the final classification for a gold watch is not the case. You might think that the one soldier (Trooper Harold James Dent) that is buried in Milton Evergreen Cemetery would be a candidate for a watch. He was truly a recognized hero of the Great War. The family was from Milton, as was McTague's, but that was not enough to qualify either one of them for the watch or a place on the cenotaph. In simple terms, being a hero of the Milton community and being killed in action was not enough to get you a gold watch!

Alfred James Evans is unique in that he died of his wounds back in Milton in 1925 and is listed as a WAR DEAD on the Victoria Park Cenotaph. In addition he has a CEF stone beside his family stone in the Milton Evergreen Cemetery. In actual fact, Evans died after the cut-off date of August 31, 1921 and so he is legally not considered a casualty of the Great War of 1914-1919 and as such he should not be listed on the Victoria Park Cenotaph. He is entitled to a CEF gravestone but it is not cared for, nor is he listed with, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Without such classification by the CWGC he is not listed as a war casualty in the Book of Remembrance on Parliament Hill, Ottawa. Despite all of this, Evans is a candidate for a gold watch, as he did not have to die to receive it and he was alive at the time they were handed out on Milton in September 1919.

5.5 *Place of Residence*

The issue of the place of residence has been partially addressed in the discussion of the various forms of Attestation Papers (see above). The second part of the "*Place of Residence*" question came down to determining what was considered MILTON in the Great War era (1914-1922). Most certainly, we cannot use the definition of Milton in 2001 and perhaps not even the definition of Milton in 1968.

At the start of the Great War the Town of Milton was a small part of the **County of Halton**, which included the following townships:

- Nassagaweya – the north west quadrant
- Esquesing – the north east quadrant
- Trafalgar – the south east quadrant
- Nelson – the south west quadrant

The primary resource for looking at each of these areas back in that era was the [Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton County, 1877](#), which you will note has been added to the MHS web site as part of the Gold Watch research. As a resident of Milton only since 1975 I did not have a long history of the Milton of “long ago”, so I struggled for some time figuring out the difference between historic and modern day Milton. Even some of the *old timers* of current Milton were foggy of the question of Milton West, Milton East, Peru, and Milton Heights.

It is clear from looking at the Maps from the Historical Atlas that the Town of Milton was situated in the northwest quadrant of the Township of Trafalgar. As a minimum, that classification should suggest that any soldier that was mentioned as being from the townships of Nassagaweya, Esquesing or Nelson (*or the towns therein*) should be eliminated as gold watch candidates. Common community names of these historic areas, to set the context for the examination of the residential areas, are those such as: (not all communities are listed)

- **Nassagaweya** – Campbellville, Milton Heights, Guelph Junction, Kelso PO
- **Esquesing** – Acton, Limehouse, Georgetown, Speyside, Stewarttown, Norval, Scotch Block, Mansewood, Peru, Ashgrove
- **Trafalgar** – Milton, Hornby, Omagh, Boyne, Palermo
- **Nelson** – Kilbride PO, Lowville, Cedar Springs, Zimmerman

The Town of Milton is shown as is split into two components in 1877, where the dividing line between **Milton West** and **Milton East** appears to be Sixteen Mile Creek. The northern limit of the Town appears to be a line running east and west best described in 2011 as what is Mountain View Drive (just north of what is now Woodward Avenue). If Mountain View was extended westward it would intersect with the top of Mill Pond (the P. L. Robertson Ponds) and the railway tracks where there is a curve on Bronte Street. The southern part of the residential area of Milton at that time was Robert Street; however the Town of Milton proper appears to be south of the Agricultural Grounds in a line 2011 marked by Barton Street on the west and Sydney Street on the east. Milton East extended from Sixteen Mile Creek to Ontario Street (Regional Road 25).

A number of the service record papers refer only to the residence as being “**Milton**”, although many do say “**Milton West**” or “**Milton Heights**”. Milton West would certainly be included in any analysis of a soldier living in Milton (Trafalgar Township) whereas Milton Heights (Esquesing Township) would be excluded. There were no references to any soldier indicating that he was from “**Milton East**”, a terminology that may have disappeared by 1914. The term Milton appears to be used in both the 1901 and 1911 Canadian Census documents.

The 1901 Census for the County of Halton refers to the following sub-districts (alphabetic order):

- Village of **Acton** (enumeration districts A-1, A-2)

- Village of **Burlington** (enumeration district B)
- **Esquesing** (enumeration districts C-1, C-2, C-3 and C-4)
- Village of **Georgetown** (enumeration districts D-1, D-2)
- Town of **Milton** (enumeration districts E-1, E-2, E-3)
- **Nassagaweya** (enumeration districts F-1, F-2, F-3)
- **Nelson** (enumeration districts G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5, G-6)
- Town of **Oakville** (enumeration districts H-1, H-2, H-3)
- **Trafalgar** (enumeration districts I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, I-5, I-6)

The 1911 Census for the County of Halton (enumeration order):

- **Esquesing** (1, 2-Norval Village, 3, 4, 5, 6)
- **Nassagaweya** (7- Campbellville Village, 8, 9)
- **Nelson** (10-Kilbride, 11, 12-Kilbride Village, 13, 14, 15)
- **Trafalgar** (16, 17, 18, 19, 20-Town of Palermo, 21-Bronte Village)
- **Milton** (22, 23, 24)
- **Oakville** (25, 26, 27)
- **Acton** (28, 29)
- **Burlington** (30)
- **Georgetown** (31-Ward 1, 32)

For reference to this project (**Milton 22, 23, 24**), an alphabetical listing of the **1,668 residents (reported)** of the Town of Milton has been compiled based on the 1911 Census of Canada. The purpose of this list is to provide an easily searchable document to determine if a Great War Soldier or his family was resident in Milton in 1911. As with all census documents of that era, only those people residing at the home at the time of the census are recorded. There is first-hand information from the files that people are missing on this list, even though they were known to reside in the community at that time. The spreadsheet (*with multiple tabs – final, raw, errors, etc.*) is provided here:

- <http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/census/1911.xls>

After all of the information on the 1911 Census was tabulated and compared to the spreadsheet will all of the soldiers names there were 71 soldiers from Milton identified. It would seem logical that this is good evidence that these men are *“Milton Community People”* and are likely candidates for the gold watches. Of course, some had to be de-listed since they had moved from the community since 1911. Similarly, not all the Milton Soldiers were residents of Milton in 1911 (*the census is conducted every 10 years*) so we don’t have a comparison list (*the 1921 census will not be public until 2011 - this year – as it is held for 90 years*).

The census listing of possible soldiers was prepared using the information supplied from [Automated Genealogy](#) and verified by checking the transcribed information against that kept by [Library and Archives Canada](#). In reviewing this information, please make note of the following:

- The column labelled “CENSUS 1911” refers to the transcribed document record, so in the case of the first file for “Charles Kennedy” it is documented in the AG File for Milton ([Halton County, Ontario](#)) in ENUMERATION DISTRICT 22, PAGE 1, LINE 16 and HOUSEHOLD 4 (22-1-16-4).
- The SERVICE NUMBER is the military number assigned when the soldier attests (enlists) or is conscripted into the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The number tells exactly which unit the soldier was assigned but it does not tell which unit the soldier actually served in battle. That number is linked to the records held by Library and Archives Canada.
- There are numerous conflicts in the Birth Dates as old men lied to join at a younger age (40) and young boys lied to join at an older age (18). In the Great War, many of the original soldiers wanted to enlist to “*participate in the great adventure*”. Sadly the adventure turned to horror.

If the soldier died in the war, his name is hyperlinked to his page at the Milton Historical Society “[Milton Soldiers Project](#)”, where you can find all the details of the soldier’s service, death and burial. All the service numbers are hyperlinked to their file at Library and Archives Canada.

<i>(links to other sites provided where available)</i>		CENSUS	SERVICE	
LAST NAME	GIVEN NAMES	BIRTH (AF)	1911	NUMBER
Kennedy	Charles	20 Jul 1895	22-1-16-4	175008
Maude	Harold John	16 Jul 1894	22-1-48-9	3039071
Yates	George Edward	29 Apr 1898	22-2-15-1011	3110199
Jackson	Charles Samuel	2 Jan 1881	22-2-26-14	663099
Morley	William James	6 Feb 1900	22-2-50-21	3107080
White	Fred Cephas	23 Sept 1881	22-3-13-22	142303
Etherington	James Henry	29 May 1876	22-3-26-26	663089
Chilsom	Roy (Roy Elliot Sept 1893?)	28 Sept 1895	22-4-25-35	142261
Maguire	John Thomas	15 Feb 1875	22-5-12-45	663537
Maguire	Bert John (letter - farmer)	20 Sep 1898	22-5-15-45	663105
White	Edgar Blake	7 Sep 1896	22-5-46-50	663635
Shepherd	James	17 Nov 1893	22-6-11-53	3314424
Sheppard	Wilfred	28 Apr 1897	22-6-12-53	3310151
Morley	William Alexander	23 Apr 1894	22-6-5-52	3230928
Morley	Samuel Howard	8 Sep 1897	22-6-6-52	3110037
Waddington	Herbert	31 Jul 1880	22-7-36-70	663125
Sloan	Frank James (1st recipient)	14 June 1894	22-7-49-74	10941
Allport	Percy	14 Dec 1878	22-8-18-79	663314
Coxe	Kenneth	21 July 1880	22-8-29-81	142264

<u>Williams</u>	Sydney Thomas	31 May 1896	22-8-36-82	<u>11188</u>
Farlow	James Gordon	9 Nov 1896	22-8-4-75	<u>663590</u>
Anderson	William		23-10-4-117	<u>11103</u>
Anderson	Robert Jr. (census says May 1903)	20 May 1894	23-10-6-117	<u>3110962</u>
Coleman	Roy Wellington (26 Oct 1900)	26 Oct 1898	23-1-13-41	<u>663588</u>
Park	Lewis McIntyre	20 Aug 1876	23-11-40-136	<u>1036380</u>
Wilson	Alexander	20 Jun 1887	23-1-15-7	<u>663128</u>
Wilson	John	6 May 1877	23-12-17-142	<u>663596</u>
Winn	James Henry	17 Apr 1890	23-12-30-144	<u>135607</u>
Winn	Ebenezer	14 Feb 1894	23-12-32-144	<u>707</u>
Winn	Norman Dingwall	29 Jul 1895	23-12-33-144	<u>310</u>
Kentner	Amos	31 Jul 1897	23-12-40-146	<u>663597</u>
Ramshaw	Frank (moved)	29 Aug 1893	23-1-32-13	<u>536103</u>
Peacock	John Russell	5 Dec 1895	23-13-39-154	<u>Officer</u>
McKay	William (age?)	13 Jan 1871	23-1-50-19 ?	<u>57087</u>
Mayes	Arthur	25 Dec 1880	23-1-5-2	<u>142532</u>
Johnson	Edward Robert	13 Mar 1884	23-2-28-25	<u>57556</u>
Coxe	John William	12 Mar 1890	23-2-45-25	<u>663082</u>
Earl	Harold Edwin (mayor's son - age)	16 May 1892	23-3-21-31	<u>3314305</u>
Charlton	Henry (lied to be younger)	19 Apr 1875	23-3-45-36	<u>408717</u>
Charlton	Albert (age discrepancy)	24 Dec 1877	23-3-46-36	<u>169002</u>
Peacock	Harold Victor	30 Nov 1898	23-4-4-38	<u>663634</u>
McLennan	James Alexander (multiple)	6 Sept 1897	23-5-15-54	<u>539</u>
Witmer	Harvey Osmond	28 May 1898	23-5-18-55	<u>3106479</u>
Randall	William Thomas (age)	9 Dec 1896	23-5-24-56	<u>201473</u>
Bailey	Edwin George	29 Apr 1885	23-6-4-67	<u>663078</u>
Torry	Joseph Sherman	5 Dec 1893	23-6-47-75	<u>663120</u>
McKechnie	Harry Emerson	4 Dec 1897	23-7-24-81	<u>663109</u>
Dewar	William Foster (1872)	9 Nov 1871	23-7-26-82	<u>663085</u>
<u>Cartwright</u>	William Frederick	26 Feb 1899	23-7-43-87	<u>663706</u>
Ford	Andrew Russel	19 May 1890	23-8-25-96	<u>3235333</u>
Ford	John Alexander (Jack)	23 Mar 1892	23-8-26-96	<u>663091</u>
Ford	Neil Gordon	18 Jul 1893	23-8-27-96	<u>3106388</u>
Wharton	Lawrence Houson	13 Oct 1888	23-8-2-89	<u>148064</u>
Metcalfe	Harvey	20 Mar 1897	23-9-10-105	<u>310029</u>
Davidson	Charles	5 Jun 1880	24-10-28-103	<u>663365</u>
McCannell	Frank Robertson	21 Jan 1892	24-10-46-106	<u>344196</u>
Clements	Russell Mathew	26 Jun 1884	24-10-7-97	<u>2688437</u>
<u>Robertson</u>	Charles Eric	April 1889	24-1-10-3	<u>Officer</u>
Buck	Bert	22 Nov 1888	24-11-30-114	<u>3233744</u>
Buck	George Edward	6 Nov 1897	24-11-33-114	<u>663080</u>
Martin	<u>Joseph James (census)</u>	Dec 1897	24-12-37-129	<u>unknown</u>
Liddle	John	3 Apr 1875	24-2-23-18	<u>142531</u>

Allan	William James	22 Jan 1897	24-3-31-28	141847
Stover	John Oswald	?? Aug 1893	24-3-37-29	663133
Stover	Norman Winfield	23 Feb 1897	24-3-38-29	3110152
Fleming	John Calvin	27 Dec 1881	24-3-48-31	799982
McEachern	Archie	13 Jul 1898	24-4-10-34	663727
Palmer	Albert (also joined 663396 -age?)	10 Jun 1872	24-4-33-40	10987
Tuck	Elmer Lawrence (age)	16 Apr 1898	24-5-13-45	663497
Wilkinson	Clarence Edward (student)	19 Aug 1899	24-6-47-65	663569
Freeman	Percy	7 Nov 1886	24-8-24-79	3109962

All of the men on this list were upgraded from **PC** (*possible candidate*) or **LC** (*likely candidate*) to **MP** (*most probable*), unless there were other facts to keep them in their current position. Some remained even in the **OL** (*off list*) category because it was known that they left Milton (*i.e. married, student, employment*). There was considerable discrepancy in the birth (age) information between the 1911 Census Data and the WWI Attestation Papers. It would appear that many of the older men lied about their age to join the service (under the 40 year age limit) and many of the younger men lied to beat the minimum age (18 years or over). In some cases it also would appear that when the Census or the Attestation was completed, the applicant just “*was not sure*” how old they were or in what year they were born, as the age or date had no impact on their file.

With the new information on the MEN OF MILTON from the 1911 era it was necessary to revisit the master list to see who was in the MP category that perhaps was not entitled, as now there were **133** candidates for **118** watches.

6 The Final Analysis

Although I am not sure how much of the end result of the project is “**Good Luck**” versus “**Good Science**”, I have to be happy with the results. I was looking for the names of **118** potential candidates for the *Gold Watches* and the final analysis at the end of the 1911 Census Review was **118** soldiers. A reduced version of the analysis of the 373 known soldiers is provided (*ATTACHMENT #17 – Spreadsheet Analysis*).

With that answer, it is time to stop this project for now and circulate it to others for review and comment. A listing of the final 118 Gold Watch Candidates follows: (*please note Section 7 of this report now has updates to the classification listings*)

LAST NAME	GIVEN NAMES	BIRTH	NUMBER	UNIT	GW	LW	MP
Charlton	Henry	19 Apr 1875	408717	19th	1		
Regan	Richard Stephen	12 Nov 1884	57714	20th Bn	1		
Waters	Uriah Joseph	12 Nov 1896	210985	98th Bn	1		
Allan	William James	22 Jan 1897	141847	76th Bn			1
Baverstock	Ernest	18 May 1885	142260	76th			1
Beard	Archie Warren	10 May 1882	142261	24th Bn			1
Bradley	William Lorne	15 Jan 1893	11083	4th Bn			1
Charlton	Albert	24 Dec 1877	169002	37th Bn			1
Chilsom	Roy Elliot	28 Sept 1895	142261	76th Bn			1
Dewar	William Foster	9 Nov 1871	663085	164th Bn			1

<u>Dockray</u>	Joseph	20 Dec 1878	142534	76th/21st Bn	1
Gough	Arthur	16 June 1874	57839	20th Bn	1
Hardy	William	9 June 1879	422081	44th Bn	1
Heath	Harold	30 Jun 1892	663096	164th Bn	1
<u>Hill</u>	George	25 Aug 1876	46585	17th Bn	1
Lecoq	John Philip	13 Aug 1888	142283	76th Bn	1
<u>Maddocks</u>	William	17 Mar 1880	302221	40th CFA	1
Maguire	Bert John	20 Sep 1898	663105	164th Bn	1
Mayes	Arthur	25 Dec 1880	142532	76th Bn	1
McKay	William	13 Jan 1871	57087	20th Bn	1
Palmer	Albert	10 Jun 1872	10987	4th Bn	1
Paterson	John	7 July 1875	57706	20th Bn	1
Sellars	Robert	1870	10974	4th Bn	1
Sloan	Frank James	14 June 1894	10941	4th Bn	1
Smith	Edward Lancelot Hill	16 Apr 1873	663508	164th Bn	1
Stewart	Ernest William	28 Sept 1894	11030	4th Bn	1
Sugden	Percy	27 Jan 1899	663116	164th Bn	1
Allport	Percy	14 Dec 1878	663314	164th Bn	1
Anderson	Robert Jr.	20 May 1894	3110962	1st Dep Bn	1
Archer	Ewart Stratton	26 Oct 1892	349580	RCHA Depot	1
Armour	Hugh	2 Jun 1895	663077	164th Bn	1
Bartlett	Thomas George	21 Dec 1882	663315	164th Bn	1
Baylis	George Walter	15 Aug 1895	11108	4th Bn	1
Baylis	Joseph M	21 Mar 1893	57577	20th Bn	1
Beasley	Albert	5 Sept 1883	141863	76th Bn	1
Childs	James	13 Oct 1877	663587	164th Bn	1
Clements	Russell Mathew	26 Jun 1884	2688437	CASC Depot	1
Coleman	Roy Wellington	26 Oct 1898	663588	164th Bn	1
Coxe	George Kenneth	5 Aug 1897	663589	164th Bn	1
Coxe	John William	12 Mar 1890	663082	164th Bn	1
Coxe	Kenneth	21 July 1880	142264	76th Bn	1
Cross	Francis	10 Feb 1878	663299	164th Bn	1
Davidson	Charles	5 Jun 1880	663365	164th Bn	1
Dent	Harold	20 Mar 1897	3109951	1st Dep Bn	1
Dockray	John		11302	4th Bn	1
Durnan	William Mosgrove	28 Jul 1890	766809	123rd Bn	1
Earl	Harold Edwin	16 May 1892	3314305	2nd Dep Bn	1
Eden	Harry	6 Jan 1894	663087	164th Bn	1
Etherington	James Henry	29 May 1876	663089	164th Bn	1
<u>Evans</u>	Alfred James	4 Mar 1895	663090	164th Bn	1
Farlow	James Gordon	9 Nov 1896	663590	164th Bn	1
Fenemore	James William	28 May 1892	854	RCD	1
Fleming	John Calvin	27 Dec 1881	799982	134th Bn	1

Ford	Andrew Russel	19 May 1890	3235333	2nd Dep Bn	1
Ford	John Alexander	23 Mar 1892	663091	164th Bn	1
Ford	Neil Gordon	18 Jul 1893	3106388	2nd Dep Bn	1
Freeman	Nelson	29 Nov 1891	142270	76th Bn	1
Freeman	Percy	7 Nov 1886	3109962	1st Dep Bn	1
Gilbey	Stanley William Hatton	20 Dec 1897	663092	164th Bn	1
Hawthorne	Russell Bowbere	27 May 1896	663095	164th Bn	1
Hopkins	Alfred	10 May 1873	2498022	RLW	1
Hume	George Sherwood	1 Mar 1893	2365632	UofT OTC	1
Inman	Harold John	4 Feb 1894	793	5 Stn Hosp	1
Jackson	Charles Samuel	2 Jan 1881	663099	164th Bn	1
Jempson	Alfred Earnest	8 Jan 1898	663100	164th Bn	1
Johnson	Edward Robert	13 Mar 1884	57556	20th Bn	1
Jones	Charles Stuart	8 June 1888	27208	15th Bn	1
Kennedy	Charles	20 Jul 1895	175008	86th Bn	1
Kentner	Amos	31 Jul 1897	663597	164th Bn	1
Lecocq	Charles Manger	25 Aug 1884	663103	164th Bn	1
Liddle	John	3 Apr 1875	142531	76th Bn	1
Maguire	John Thomas	15 Feb 1875	663537	164th Bn	1
Marshall	Charles	14 Jul 1873	663106	164th Bn	1
Martin	Joseph James	Dec 1897	unknown	unknown	1
Maude	Harold John	16 Jul 1894	3039071	1st Dep Bn	1
McEachern	Archie	13 Jul 1898	663727	164th Bn	1
McKechnie	Harry Emerson	4 Dec 1897	663109	164th Bn	1
McLennan	James Alexander	6 Sept 1897	539	CADC	1
Merrett	Percy Edward	2 Oct 1894	663107	164th Bn	1
Metcalfe	Harvey	20 Mar 1897	310029	1st Dep Bn	1
Millard	Alan William Noel	23 Dec 1894	663663	164th Bn	1
Morley	Samuel Howard	8 Sep 1897	3110037	1st Dep Bn	1
Morley	William Alexander	23 Apr 1894	3230928	2nd Dep Bn	1
Morley	William James	6 Feb 1900	3107080	1st Dep Bn	1
Park	Lewis McIntyre	20 Aug 1876	1036380	238th Bn	1
Peacock	Harold Victor	30 Nov 1898	663634	164th Bn	1
Peacock	John Russell	5 Dec 1895	Officer	164th Bn	1
Peaks	William Henry	27 Dec 1889	11148	4th Bn	1
Proctor	George	16 Sep 1877	663114	164th Bn	1
Ptolemy	Roger Hall	16 Aug 1897	Officer	CFA	1
Randall	William Thomas	9 Dec 1896	201473	95th Bn	1
Robertson	Stewart Beatty	28 Jan 1880	663115	164th Bn	1
Roper	Charles Pollard	31 Oct 1896	3058014	1st Dep Bn	1
Shepherd	James	17 Nov 1893	3314424	2nd Dep Bn	1
Sheppard	Wilfred	28 Apr 1897	3310151	1st Dep Bn	1
Sherwood	Arthur Reginald	24 May 1891	663117	164th Bn	1

Siggins	John	17 Oct 1889	7835	7th CMR	1
Slack	William	28 Feb 1880	10988	4th Bn	1
Smillie	George Fulton	10 Feb 1888	663118	164th Bn	1
Stevens	Edward James Worringham	7 May 1897	57726	20th Bn	1
Stover	John Oswald	Aug 1893	663133	164th Bn	1
Stover	Norman Winfield	23 Feb 1897	3110152	1st Dep Bn	1
Taylor	Frederick Arthur	17 Apr 1895	57563	20th Bn	1
Todd	John Lormer	3 Jun 1895	663119	164th Bn	1
Torry	Joseph Sherman	5 Dec 1893	663120	164th Bn	1
Tough	William Ambrozo	10 Feb 1897	663121	164th Bn	1
Warbey	James Thomas	22 Jul 1873	663233	164th Bn	1
Wheeler	Frederick John	9 Jul 1886	663129	164th Bn	1
White	Edgar Blake	7 Sep 1896	663635	164th Bn	1
White	Fred Cephas	23 Sept 1881	142303	76th	1
White	George	30 May 1886	348091	RCHA	1
Whitehead	Charles	20 Sep 1891	663263	164th Bn	1
Wilkinson	Clarence Edward	19 Aug 1899	663569	5th CMR	1
Wilson	Alexander	20 Jun 1887	663128	164th Bn	1
Wilson	John	6 May 1877	663596	164th Bn	1
Winn	Ebenezer	14 Feb 1894	707	CADC	1
Winn	Norman Dingwall	29 Jul 1895	310	CADC	1
Yates	George Edward	29 Apr 1898	3110199	1st Dep Bn	1
COUNT				3 24 91	

As shown the total count for the gold watch candidates is 3 **GW** (gold watch), 24 **LW** (listed watch) and 91 **MP** (most probable), for a total of **118** gold watch candidates.

Since the completion of the analysis described in this report, families in the community have come forward with additional information on the gold watch classification. As of the date of this report, at least 2 additional **GW** classifications have been reported. Section 7 of the report will be updated as this information is confirmed.

7 Project Updates

When additional information is received on any of the watches, this section of the report will be updated, rather than changing the contents of the entire report. If the changes required become significant, a new version of the report will be published. Each new find will be reported as a new subsection.

7.1 *The Ptolemy Watch*

This report had just been completed when at the last moment we received word that the family of Roger Hall Ptolemy, an Officer with the Canadian Field Artillery was in possession of his Gold Watch. Although Roger was not given special mention at any place in the report, until now, you will find his mother listed in many of the *Milton Canadian Champion* newspaper articles of that period. Roger's

brother (Hector Ptolemy) served in the Great War as a member of the British Royal Flying Corp. Roger's father (William Hall Ptolemy), commanded the Welland Canal Force and never left Canada. He served in the capacity as a member of the finance team of the Milton Citizen Committee in August 1919. His wife was an active participant in the banquet team of the same committee.

The initial e-mail says the watch belonged to Colonel Ptolemy – which could be a problem if that was true – as to the best of my knowledge it was only Roger that was entitled to a watch. The Colonel (unless Roger had received a promotion) was the father William Hall Ptolemy and he did not serve overseas – a condition necessary to be a watch recipient. It is also unlikely he was a recipient if on the finance team of the Citizen Committee.

7.2 The Beasley Watch

The daughter (*Kath Johnson*) of Albert Beasley (#141863) who was listed in the MP category has confirmed that her father did receive a gold watch; however the location of the watch at this time has not been reported. It is reported that Albert left England in 1911 to settle in Canada and that his wife and children followed in 1912. There is no special mention of Albert Beasley in this report. It is reported in the reference text MRWWI that Albert enlisted with the 164th Battalion and was sent to France in a draft of reinforcements only 3 weeks after shipping overseas. It is reported that he returned home to Milton in April 1919.

7.3 The Baverstock Watch

A collector of Waltham pocket watches in South Yorkshire, United Kingdom, (Mr. Aaron Day) first contacted me in June 2011, indicating that he had the Baverstock watch in his possession. It was clear from the early description that it was indeed one of only five (5) watches presented to the widows and families of deceased soldiers at the July 1, 1917 Dominion Day ceremony.

In October 2011, Aaron re-established contact and sent pictures of the Baverstock watch, along with his incredible offer:

“The watch shouldn’t be in my collection, it should be ‘back’ home in Milton – I don’t expect any payment I just need to know how to get it to you safely”.

The Baverstock watch arrived safely in Milton on October 24, 2011. Prior to this time I had assumed that all the watches that were presented were identical, so it was quite a surprise to see that the Baverstock watch was significantly different than the Regan watch (*the only other one in my possession*). The Regan and Waters watches, both of which have been viewed by MHS members, are of the same style. Aaron Day reported to us that this watch movement would have been made by the American Watch Company in Waltham Massachusetts. The serial number suggests it was made in 1903. Waltham watch movements were often exported to the UK where they were married with a British watch case, so this watch was special in that it was a Waltham movement in a Waltham case. We can only express our sincere appreciation to the collector for repatriating such a collector’s item.

Aaron told us:

"I am so pleased that I was able to reunite this little piece of history with the community from where it came, and hope it serves as a reminder of the sacrifice the Baverstock family made and suffered all those years ago. The fact that your town remembered its soldiers in this way should fill you with pride".

To the best of our knowledge there was only one *Baverstock* residing in Milton in the fall of 2011. I spoke to this gentleman, a long-time resident of Milton, however he had no recollection of anyone by the name of Ernest Baverstock, nor did he have any knowledge of a relative who might have served in the Great War.

In May of 2009 I had discovered a stone marker for Ernest Baverstock lying on the ground in Evergreen Cemetery (by the GREEN 1 post at the bottom of the hill in the old part of the cemetery). The stone also shows that Ethel May Baverstock died on April 17, 1916 at age 10 months (Evergreen Internment Record: Blk-001 Lot-10 1 1). There are no records of Ernest's wife "Anna" in the cemetery records. Private Ernest Baverstock was buried in Contay British Cemetery, Contay France (the Somme). We will continue to search for members of the Baverstock family, however it is unknown if they stayed in Canada or returned to the UK after the war. There are no current listings for Baverstock in the Milton area; however there are four listings in the Toronto area.

Given that the Baverstock watch shows the significant difference from the Regan watch, I have prepared a summary of the watch details, as depicted in the following table. These two watches are now in my possession and are proposed as the founding blocks of a public display of the Great War commemorative watches.



The Regan Watch

The Baverstock Watch

The Regan Watch

Front Face:

Regina – Swiss Made
12 & 24 hour clock in large and small numerals
Glass is cracked

Case:

Gold cover on rear of watch only
Rear pattern is a shield or crest

Rear Cover Case Inscriptions:

SOVEREIGN Gold Filled
Maple Leaf with "E" marking emblem
Gold Filled
224987

The Baverstock Watch

Front Face:

Waltham (American Watch Company, Waltham
Massachusetts)
12 hour clock markings only
Glass is missing, second hand is missing

Case:

Gold cover marked 1128668 (inside)
Front and rear case pattern is Maple Leaf branches

Rear Cover Case Inscriptions:

CASHIER
Unknown "winged emblem" A.W.C. CO.
Gold Filled Extra
1128668



The Regan Watch

Rear Body Inscription:

To
S. Regan
from
Town of Milton
Great War
1914-19

The Baverstock Watch

Rear Body Inscription:

THE GREAT WAR
In Memory Of
Private E. Baverstock
From
Citizens of Milton
July 1, 1917

8 Reference Documents

The following are the primary reference documents used in this research. Where possible a hyperlink has been added to take the reader to the resource.

- [Milton Remembers World War I and the Men and Women We Never Knew](#)
- [Milton Historical Society – Great War Soldiers](#)
- [Milton Historical Society – The Turner Collection](#)
- [Milton Historical Society – Historical Atlas of 1877](#)
- [Avidgenie – War Brides and Ancestry Links to Milton Soldiers](#)
- [Automated Genealogy – Milton Census of 1911](#)
- [Nominal Rolls of Milton Soldiers in the Great War](#)
- [Service Records of Milton Soldiers in the Great War](#)
- [Attestation Papers of Milton Soldiers in the Great War](#)
- [Commonwealth War Graves Commission – Soldiers Died in the Great War](#)
- [The Canadian Virtual War Memorial](#)
- [Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group – The Forum](#)
- [Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group – The Matrix Project](#)
- [UK National Archives - Soldiers of the Great War](#)

9 Attachments

The following items were uncovered during the investigation of the Gold Watches of Milton Ontario. These add clarity to the issues discussed in the report and will be of interest to those families who still reside in Milton who have a family gold watch.

Where possible I have provided an image of the referenced document, followed by a transcription of the text. Images of the microfilm archives from the Milton Canadian Champion were made in most cases by taking a digital photograph of the reader screen at the Milton Historical Society, as that provided a clearer image than the computerized scan at the Milton Library. Images were cleaned up and cropped using [NUANCE PaperPort](#) software, which in many cases also provided a reasonable copy of the text through *optical character recognition* technology (OCR).

Please note that in the web based version of this report that **SECTION 9 ATTACHMENTS** has been removed and posted as a separate document. This is due to the large size of the attachments as they still contained the digitized versions of the newspaper images. At a later date a complete copy of the final report will be produced as a condensed document.

An integral part of this research is the [EXCEL SPREADSHEET](#) analysis of the 375 Milton Soldiers who were possible candidates for the Gold Watch. This spreadsheet is also provided as a separate item in the web based version of the report. The colour coding in the report for the classification of the gold watch recipients is also used in the text version of the report.

If you are unable to download or open any of these documents, please e-mail me at:

miltonsoldiers@gmail.com

and I will arrange for you to receive a version of the report that you can read.

On November 10, 2011 the Milton Canadian Champion published an article that details the work reported herein. A copy of that article has now been added as ATTACHMENT #16 to this report.

9.1 ATTACHMENT #1 - Milton Observer of March 22, 1989

Wednesday, March 22, 1989

Say You Saw It In The Observer! 11

Legion seeks urban vets who served in WWI

Stewart Wolf is at his "wit's end" and "totally frustrated" by a project that he took on for the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Mr. Wolf is trying to find the names of 99 service men and women from within the Town of Milton who served overseas during the First World War. But the search has been like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

Town Hall records have been lost and local churches have honour rolls with over 200 names. The problem, however, is that Mr. Wolf is looking only for First World War veterans from the town's old urban area.

He said that the church rolls not only included people who could walk to church, but those that 'ed in horse and buggy.

"We want the people who walked to church," the 70-year-old vet added.

Once all the names have been compiled, a special honour roll for urban Milton veterans of the First World War will be hung in Town Hall.

The only link between the former service people and the Town is a gold pocket watch that each veteran received in a ceremony on Sept. 15, 1919.

The watches opened at the back

and were inscribed with the words: "The Great War. To (the veteran's name) From the Citizens of Milton."

Mr. Wolf didn't have to look far to discover at least one of the watches' owners.

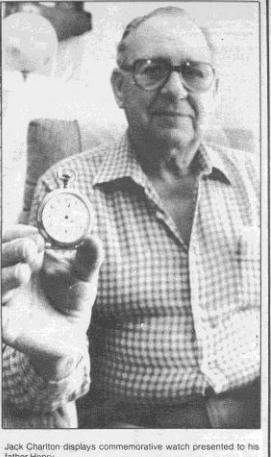
Legion member Jack Charlton has the watch that was given to his father, Company Sergeant Major Henry Charlton, who emigrated from England to Milton in 1907, "Mr. Charlton said last week. "He married here and worked at Milton Brick until the company closed down."

He said the watch "is a nice memento of my dad. It's something I value very highly."

Mr. Wolf hopes that people with the watches continue to come forward with more information about the local vets.

"I started this project about a year ago and have only had a couple of phone calls," he said. "I'm hoping someone will come forward with some records."

Anyone interested in finding out more about the project or who knows of someone who was one of the 99 veterans presented with the watches should contact Stewart Wolf at 878-8374.



Jack Charlton displays commemorative watch presented to his father Henry.

Legion Seeks Urban Vets Who Served in WWI

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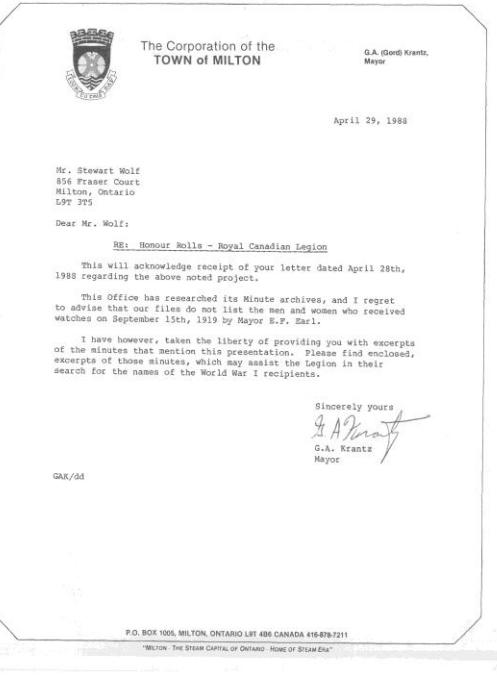
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9.2 ATTACHMENT #2 - Mayor Gord Krantz Letter of April 29, 1988

 <p>April 29, 1988</p> <p>Mr. Stewart Wolf 854 Fraser Court Milton, Ontario L9P 3T5</p> <p>Dear Mr. Wolf:</p> <p><u>RE: Honour Rolls - Royal Canadian Legion</u></p> <p>This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 28th, 1988 regarding the above noted project.</p> <p>This Office has researched its Minute archives, and I regret to advise that our files do not list the men and women who received watches on September 15th, 1919 by Mayor E.F. Earl.</p> <p>I have however, taken the liberty of providing you with excerpts of the minutes that mention this presentation. Please find enclosed, excerpts of those minutes, which may assist the Legion in their search for the names of the World War I recipients.</p> <p>Sincerely yours <i>G.A. Krantz</i> G.A. Krantz Mayor</p> <p>GAK/dk</p> <p>P.O. BOX 1005, MILTON, ONTARIO L9T 4B6 CANADA 416-879-7211 "MILTON - THE STEAM CAPITAL OF ONTARIO - HOME OF STEAM ERA"</p>	<p>Gord Krantz Letter: Honour Rolls – Royal Canadian Legion</p> <p>This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 28th, 1988 regarding the above noted project.</p> <p><i>This Office has researched its Minute archives, and I regret to advise that our files do not list the men and women who received watches on September 15th, 1919 by Mayor E. F. Earl.</i></p> <p><i>I have however, taken the liberty of providing you with excerpts of the minutes that mention this presentation. Please find enclosed, excerpts of those minutes, which may assist the Legion in their search for the names of the World War I recipients.</i></p> <p><i>Sincerely yours</i> <i>G. A. Krantz Mayor</i></p>
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EXCERPT FROM AUGUST 5, 1919 Council Minutes

"Moved by J. Maxted Seconded by J.F. Little
That the Mover and Seconder with Councillors Bill and Ramshaw be a committee to make a list of the names of the returned soldiers entitled to the presentation of a watch. The list to be submitted to the Council next meeting. The Committee to have power to add to its numbers from among the Citizens of Milton."

"Moved by E. Syer Seconded by Al Chambers

That the Mayor, Mover and Seconder and C.R. Turner be a Committee to call a meeting of the Citizens of the Town to make arrangements for the reunion of our Soldier Boys to take peace about the 1st of September."

EXCERPT FROM AUGUST 18, 1919 Council Minutes

"Councillor Maxted presented the report of the Special Committee appointed to prepare a list of the names of returned soldiers' eligible to receive watches from the Town of Milton beg leave to submit the following. The members appointed by the Council met on Monday Evening, August 11th and added the following to the Committee, Mrs. J.H. Peacock and Messrs Robert Fleming George Smillie. All Members of the Committee were present at a meeting in Council Chamber on Tuesday evening, August 12th. On motion, Councillor Maxted was appointed Chairman and Mrs. Peacock, Secretary. On motion it was resolved unanimously that those who were bonafid residents of the Town of Milton at the time of their enlistment and who had served their King and Country overseas be recommended to the Council as eligible to receive watches. The list of names were then taken and each name considered individually

under the above resolution.

The Committee then adjourned to meet Thursday, Aug. 14 when the lists were again revised and are hereby submitted for your approval. It was also resolved under motion to also submit the names of nursing sisters and men who although not qualifying for watches under the general rule, we would recommend for some recognition from the Town of Milton, although their work took them from the Town prior to enlistment, yet their families and interests were still in the Town. Some having returned to Milton to enlist. It was also recommended that the widows of those having made the supreme sacrifice be presented with watches. The Chairman was instructed to make a report to the Council and submit the following lists- all of which is respectfully submitted.

Moved by John Maxted Seconded by J.F. Little

That this report of your special committee be adopted as a preliminary report. CARRIED."

EXCERPT FROM SEPTEMBER 8, 1919 Council Minutes

"Councillor Maxted presented the report of special Committee as the last revised list for watches to be given on September 15th. Several other names have been considered but full information has not yet been received in these cases. We would recommend that power be given the Chairman to add such as come within the scope of our resolutions all of which is respectfully submitted. Signed John Maxted, J.G. Ranshaw, J.C. Bell, J.F. Little.

Moved by John Maxted Seconded by J.F. Little

That the report just read be adopted. CARRIED"

9.3 ATTACHMENT #3 - *The First Gold Watch in 1915*

(this is page 1 of 3 pages of the December 1915 article)

SOLDIER WELCOMED.—About noon last Friday it was learned that Lance Corporal Frank Sloane, the first of Milton's wounded heroes to come home, would arrive from Toronto on the 3.40 p. m., C. P. R. train. Arrangements had been made for his reception, but the notice was short. However, there was a large gathering at the station when the train arrived. With as little delay as possible a procession was formed. It was headed by the band and the soldier, his parents and sister were seated in one of a number of motor cars. There were 480 pupils of the public school, carrying flags, and a host of citizens. The weather was cold, but the crowd was too large for the town hall and the reception had to be held in the open air, in front of the new post office. The band played patriotic airs and the school children sang appropriate songs. Mayor J. W. Blain presented the soldier with a gold watch, ordered through Mr. Marchand and with a suitable inscription inside its case, and a fob, which was the gift of Mr. Marchand. In making the presentation the Mayor spoke of the splendid work of the

Milton Canadian Champion

December 16, 1915

Page 4 (1 of 3 sections)

SOLDIER WELCOMED. - About noon last Friday it was learned that Lance Corporal Frank Sloane, the first of Milton's wounded heroes to come home, would arrive from Toronto on the 3.40 p.m., C. P. R. train. Arrangements had been made for his reception, but the notice was short. However, there was a large gathering at the station when the train arrived. With as little delay possible a procession was formed. It was headed by the band and the soldier, his parents and sister were seated in one of a number of motor cars. There were 480 pupils of the public school, carrying flags, and a host of citizens. The weather was cold, but the crowd was too large for the town hall and the reception had to be held in the open air, in front of the new post office. The band played patriotic airs and the school children sang appropriate songs. Mayor J. W. Blain presented the soldier with a gold wwatch, ordered through Mr. Marchand and with a suitable inscription inside the case, and a fob, which was the gift of Mr. Marchand. (end of insert)

9.4 ATTACHMENT #4 - *The Second Gold Watch of 1915*

SOLDIER COMING.—News has been received that Col. Sergeant Lorne Bradley of the 4th Batt. is on his way home and will be here early in January. Whether he is on leave or has been discharged on account of the wounds received at Ypres is not known. Yesterday evening, at a meeting held at the town hall, it was decided to give him a reception and a gold watch. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

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December 23, 1915
Page 3

SOLDIER COMING - News has been received that Col. Sergeant Lorne Bradley of the 4th Batt. Is on his way home and will be here early in January. Whether he is on leave or has been discharged on account of the wounds received at Ypres is not known. Yesterday evening, at a meeting held at the town hall, it was decided to give him a reception and a gold watch. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

9.5 ATTACHMENT #5 - Fair Play for Milton Soldiers, Anna Ruddy February 1917

<p>Fair Play for Milton Soldiers.</p> <p>Editor Champion:</p> <p>It is with a little surprise that I read in the current issue of the Champion a disclaimer on the part of the town council as to any responsibility for the reception of our returned soldiers. It fell to my lot last spring to approach the leading members of the council regarding a farewell to the boys of the 76th Battalion. The request was firmly refused on the ground that as it was the intention to give every returned soldier a reception when he came home the council could not also give them a farewell. Citizens took the matter up and the boys went away feeling that the heart of their fellow townspeople was with them. (It is only fair to say that a couple of the councilmen were in hearty sympathy with the action and one was most active in carrying it out.)</p> <p>The Milton Canadian Champion</p>	<p>Milton Canadian Champion February 8, 1917 Page 2</p> <p>Editor Champion: It is with a little surprise that I read in the current issue of the Champion a disclaimer on the part of the town council as to any responsibility for the reception of our returned soldiers ... The request was firmly refused on the ground that as it was the intention to give every returned soldier a reception when he came home, the council could not also give them a farewell.</p> <p>.....</p>
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The Milton contingent of the 76th will come back if at all, a broken and incomplete fragment. Some are making their bed on the blood soaked field of the Somme. Gold watches or the lack of them are not troubling them, but who shall say that the memory of that spontaneous and kindly farewell did not cheer many a lonely night in the trenches when they had only memories and the silent hours of no-man's land?

Is it possible that since then our Milton heroes have not even been met with a conveyance? Surely not? Why should one Milton boy be treated with less courtesy and attention than others? Are they not worthy?

....
Gold watches or the lack of them are not troubling them, but who shall say that the memory of that spontaneous and kindly farewell did not cheer many a lonely night in the trenches when they had only memories and the silent hours of no-man's land.

Have they not fought well? Have any of them disgraced their uniform? What of the men of the "Fighting Fourth," with whose fame Britain and France has rung? Were our Milton boys not there when they plugged up the way to Calais? Yes, they were there, every one of them on the job. What do they get when they return to their home town? The privilege of slinking down a back street, or some other old street, to their homes. Are they any the less heroes for that? Not at all. But what of the town, the community that allows them to do it? Be assured of one thing, if Milton is ever

known to history it will be through these men, and not through the rest of us.

The people who are at all important at this time are the men who fight and their families who are making the sacrifice. No matter what we do to help, the rest of us count for but very little in comparison.

I am glad to see the championship of the Champion for those who have been invalided home on account of sickness or injury. It makes one blush for shame that it should be necessary to ask for fair play for the old country men.

I have had the privilege of visiting Wm. Maddocks in the Military Convalescent Hospital, where he is lying in a plaster cast, unable to move, but smiling and cheerful. I happened to be there a week or two ago, in time to see him being interviewed by the Duke of Devonshire. It is hoped that he will eventually recover.

Anna C. Ruddy,
Toronto, Feb. 3rd, 1917.

9.6 ATTACHMENT #6 - Milton Canadian Champion March 1, 1917

It is now proposed to give all Milton soldiers who have returned from the front, except the two who have already been welcomed and presented with watches, a reception, with presentation, at the celebration of the semi-centennial of Confederation which will be held here on Dominion Day. We have not abandoned the opinion that the proper time to welcome a soldier is on his arrival, but Dominion Day is only four months away and to do it then will be better than to wait until after the end of the war. It is hoped that this may come before the end of the year, but it is well to have a definite arrangement.

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March 1, 1917
Page 2

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9.7 ATTACHMENT #7 - Milton Canadian Champion June 28, 1917

SOLDIERS' WATCHES—The Patriotic Committee met on Tuesday evening, to arrange for next Monday's demonstration. The watches will be presented to the returned soldiers and widows of fallen soldiers, as already announced, but it was decided to give them to returning soldiers only in future. In the cases of soldiers killed the price of a watch, in each case, will be put into a fund for the erection of a monument in the park after the close of the war. The members of the committee agreed in the opinion that, though a watch would be appropriate in the case of a returned soldier, it would hardly be a memorial for one among the fallen, though given to his widow.

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June 28, 1917 page 2

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9.8 ATTACHMENT #8 - Milton Canadian Champion July 5, 1917

<p>DOMINION DAY IN MILTON.</p> <p>Favored by fine weather, Milton's celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Confederation was a notable event in the history of the town.</p> <p>Business establishments and citizens' dwellings were gay with bunting. Besides British flags of all kinds, large and small, there were those of all Britain's allies, including that of the latest recruit to the cause of freedom, the United States, which was very much in evidence.</p>	<p>Milton Canadian Champion July 5, 1917, Page 2</p> <p>DOMINION DAY IN MILTON Favoured by the fine weather, Milton's celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Confederation was a notable event in the history of the town.</p> <p>Business establishments and citizens' dwellings were gay with bunting. Besides British flags of all kinds, large and small, there were those of all Britain's allies, including that of the latest recruit to the cause of freedom, the United States, which was very much in evidence.</p>
<p>At 1.30 p.m. the returned soldiers, their families and those of the fallen, with the members of the Patriotic Committee, started from the town hall in 23 motor cars, the owners of which were kind enough to tender. In most cases, they drove them too. The route was over part of Halton's good roads system, from Milton through Campbellville, Sodom, Speyside and, via the 2nd lines of Esquesing and Trafalgar, back to Milton. The cars arrived a little after 2:30.</p>	<p>At 1:30 pm the returned soldiers, their families and those of the fallen, with members of the Patriotic Committee, started from the town hall in 23 motor cars, the owners of which were kind enough to tender. In most cases, they drove them too. The route was over part of Halton's good roads system, from Milton through Campbellville, Sodom, Speyside and, via the 2nd lines of Esquesing and Trafalgar, back to Milton. The cars arrived a little after 2:30.</p>

<p>The procession was then formed. It was headed by the band. Next came the pupils of the public school, marching in fours and each carrying a Union Jack, with the motor cars in the rear. On arrival at the park the children sang, "Oh, Canada." Bandmaster Gollins, who had trained them, led them and they did him great credit. Their part in the programme ended in three cheers for the returned soldiers, which they gave with great enthusiasm and remarkable lung power.</p>	<p>The procession was then formed. It was headed by the band. Next came the pupils of the public school, marching in fours and each carrying a Union Jack, with the motor cars in the rear. On arrival at the park the children sang, "Oh, Canada." Bandmaster Collins, who had trained them. Led them and they did him great credit. Their part in the programme ended in three cheers for the returned soldiers, which they gave with great enthusiasm and remarkable lung power.</p>
<p>Judge Elliot, who presided, then gave his opening address. After speaking briefly of the war and Canada's part in it, he told of the voting of the money by the town council for watches for returned Milton soldiers, explained why it had been determined to present a number of watches on one day, rather than give them separately and announced that in future, instead of giving watches to relatives of the fallen, money would be set aside for the erection, after the war should end, of a suitable memorial, probably in the park, on which the names of the fallen would be inscribed.</p>	<p>Judge Elliot, who presided, then gave his opening address. After speaking briefly of the war and Canada's part in it, he told of the voting of the money by the town council for watches for returned Milton soldiers, explained why it had been determined to present a number of watches on one day, rather than giving them separately and announced that in future, instead of giving watches to relatives of the fallen, money would be set aside for the erection, after the war should end, of a suitable memorial, probably in the park, on which the names of the fallen would be inscribed.</p>

After a selection by the band, the chief speaker of the day, Rev. N. M. Leckie, B.A., B.D., of Kirkwall, was introduced. Mr. Leckie began by saying that he was on his second visit to Milton, his first having been a number of years ago, when, at Knox Church, he had preached his first sermon after his ordination. He then showed the righteousness of the war on the part of the allies, how they had been forced to fight for the cause of freedom and for the rights of the smaller and weaker nations. Going back into history, he told how other belligerents had fought for similar reasons and had been justified. In the past, he said, Britain had not always done her duty in providing for the dependents of her

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Next came the presentation of the watches, by Mayor Earl, for Milton, and Councillor Hampshire, for Esquesing, with appropriate remarks and explanations in each case. The returned Milton soldiers who answered to their names were, Sergt. Wm. McKay, Corpl. Jack Lecocq and Ptes. A. Charlton, Arthur Goagh, R. Sellers, Arthur Mays, John Paterson, Wm. Hardy and Albert Palmer. All were cheered, particularly Pte. Paterson, who left a leg in France, but looked well and cheerful. Pte. Wm. Maddocks was unable to turn out, as his injured hip is

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<p>still in a plaster cast, and Mrs. Maddocks received his watch, as did W. B. Chisholm for his son, Pte. Roy Chisholm, who could not get leave of absence from Alton, where he is a Government inspector of shells in a munition plant. One Milton soldier, Pte. W. J. Allen, had died since his return.</p>	<p>Still in a plaster cast, and Mrs. Maddocks received his watch, as did W. B. Chisholm for his son, Pte. Roy Chisholm, who could not get leave of absence from Alton, where he is a Government inspector of shells in a munitions plant. One Milton soldier, W. J. Allen, had died since his return.</p>
<p>His watch was given to his father, George Allen. Of the four widows of Milton's soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice, three were present and got their watches, Mrs. Baverstock, Mrs. Dockray and Mrs. Beard. The fourth, Mrs. Hill, was away from home and her little son represented her. The Esquesing soldier was Pte. Lazenby, who was as heartily cheered as his comrades.</p>	<p>His watch was given to his father George Allen. Of the four widows of Milton's soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice, three were present and got their watches, Mrs. Baverstock, Mrs. Dockray and Mrs. Beard. The fourth, Mrs. Hill was away from home and her little son represented her. The Esquesing soldier was Pte. Lazenby, who was as heartily cheered as his comrades.</p>
<p>Two soldiers who had returned earlier than the rest and had been honored on their arrival, Co. Q. M. Sergt. Lorne Bradley and Lance Corp. Frank Sloan, were at the presentation.</p> <p>The programme ended with the National Anthem, by the band.</p> <p>In the evening there was a good turnout to the concert in the park under the auspices of the band. The feature of the programme was the singing of Donald McDonald, the Town ...</p>	<p>Two soldiers who had returned earlier than the rest and had been honored on their arrival, Co. Q. M. Sergt. Lorne Bradley and Lance Corp. Frank Sloan, were at the presentation.</p> <p>The programme ended with the National Anthem, by the band.</p> <p>In the evening there was a good turnout to the concert in the park under the auspices of the band. The feature of the programme was the singing of Donald McDonald, the Town ...</p>

9.9 ATTACHMENT #9 - Milton Canadian Champion July 12, 1917

ANOTHER SOLDIER HOME.—On Tuesday afternoon Mayor Earl received notice by telegram from Pte. Cottier, late of the 76th Batt., that Pte. Wilfred Appleyard would arrive here from Toronto by the 6.15 p.m. train. Pte. Appleyard is a son of John Appleyard, of Milton Heights, had never been a citizen of Milton and there was no gold watch coming to him from the corporation, but he is well known here, lost one of his legs through a wound received on the Somme on Sept. 16th last and the Mayor and other members of the Reception Committee decided that his heroism and self sacrifice should be recognized by a special reception, of which notice was spread as quickly as possible. The band turned out. A large crowd gathered at the station and on the arrival of the soldier, with Pte. Cottier, he was greeted by the Reception Committee and a number of his friends, presented by the Mayor with a respectable sum of money, collected from citizens, given three cheers and a tiger and seated in Councillor Chambers's car, together with the Mayor and several other members of the committee. A procession was formed, headed by the band, with about a dozen other cars following that of Mr. Chambers. It dispersed after reaching the town hall and Pte. Appleyard was taken home in the car. At Milton Heights

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July 12, 1917, Page 3

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it was found that Mr. Appleyard had not received notice of the coming of his son and was away from home, but Mr. and Mrs. George Hewston had a banquet prepared at their home, of which Pte. Appleyard and his friends partook. Pte. Appleyard is only seventeen years of age. He was only fifteen when he enlisted here in 1915 in the 76th Batt. He has grown considerably since then and is now a six footer. He was taken by surprise by his welcome and very grateful for it.

Like other good soldiers, he is modest, but his story was drawn from him by the Mayor. He said he received a piece of shrapnel in his knee while in a trench. It numbed his leg, but caused little pain and he thought it unimportant. He set out to walk to the rear, without any first aid dressing. After going about a mile his leg stiffened so that he could go no further. Stretcher bearers picked him up about twelve hours later. Evidently his wound became infected, as his leg was amputated, more than half way above his ...

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9.10 ATTACHMENT #10 - Milton Canadian Champion August 21, 1919

The Canadian Champion
MILTON, Aug. 21, 1919.

MILTON SOLDIERS' DAYS.

The Citizens' Committee appointed to arrange for the presentations to returned soldiers of Milton met in the reading room in the town hall last Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

Present—Messdames, R. K. Anderson, W. J. Clements, Joe Peacock, A. Duff, W. H. Ptolemy, G. Allan, Messrs. E. F. Earl, Dr. Anderson, Lt.-Col. Ptolemy, D. S. Robertson, W. Panton, J. Mockridge, R. Wheeler, F. Dewar, C. D. McGregor, E. Syer, T. McJannett, W. K. McCready, G. Hiley, Harry Coulson, W. J. Dick, F. Pearen, A. L. Chambers, J. M. Mackenzie, Murray Sproat.

Mayor Earl was voted into the chair and W. J. Dick appointed Secretary.

Moved by Dr. Anderson, seconded by D. S. Robertson, that our celebration consist of presentations to soldiers, speeches, sports and decoration.

Carried.

Moved by E. Syer, seconded by Dr. Anderson, that we have following committees, decorating, finance, banquet, booth, parade, concert, sports reception, printing, presentation. Carried.

Moved by D. S. Robertson, seconded by F. Pearen, that each committee consist of three members, with power to add to their members.—Carried.

The following were then appointed.

Decoration—A. L. Chambers, Frank Pearen, J. Mockridge.

Finance—D. S. Robertson, Dr. Anderson, Col. Ptolemy.

Banquet—Mrs. (Dr.) Anderson, Mrs. Ptolemy, Mrs. Book.

Booth—W. E. McCready, H. Coulson, F. D. Dewar.

Parade and Concert—E. Syer, C. D. McGregor, J. M. Mackenzie.

Sports—R. S. Crapper, J. F. Little, C. S. Fleming.

Reception—Soldiers' Reception Committee.

The Citizen's Committee appointed to arrange for the presentations to returned soldiers of Milton met in the reading room in the town hall last Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

Present – Meadanines, R. K. Anderson, W. J. Clements, Jos. Peacock, A. Duff, W. H. Ptolemy, G. Allan, Messrs. E. F. Earl, Dr. Anderson, Lt.-Col. Plotmey, D. S. Robertson, W. Plantoon, J. Mockridge, R. Wheeler, F. Dewar, C. D. McGregor, E. Syer, T. McLennan, W. R. McCready, G. Hilyer, Harry Coulson, W. J. Dick, F. Pearen, A. I. Chambers, J. M. Mackenzie, Murray Sproat.

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Carried.

Moved by R. E. Syer, seconded by Dr. Anderson, that we have following committees, decorating, finance, banquet, booth, parade, concert, sports, reception, printing, presentation.

Carried.

Moved by D. S. Robertson, seconded by F. Pearen, that each committee consist of three members, with power to add to their numbers.

Carried.

The following were then appointed.

Decoration Chambers, Pearen, Mockridge

Finance – Robertson, Anderson, Ptolemy

Banquet – Mrs. Anderosn, Mrs. Ptolemy, Mrs. Book

Booth – McCready, Coulson, Dewar

Parade and Concert – Syer, McG, Mackenzierregor

Sports – Crapper, Little, Fleming

Reception – Soldiers' Reception Committee already appointed by town.

Printing.

Presentations

Dr. Anderson, F. Pearen. That the Sports Committee fix and admission fee of 25c be charged to the sports

C. D. McGregor – Mockridge – That motion of Dr. Anderson be laid on the table for consideration at next meeting

Meeting
Carried

D. S. Robertson W. F. McCready – That the Secretary communicate with Trafalgar Council extending to that municipality an opportunity of making presentation to any of their returned soldiers at the same

time as our presentation.

Carried.

Mrs. Ptolemy Mrs. Anderson. That W. J. McClenhan, F. J. Martin and Jos Peacock be a male committee to assist ladies banquet committee.

Carried.

On motion, meeting adjourned until yesterday evening.

At the adjourned meeting held yesterday evening it was decided to hold the soldiers' celebration on Saturday, Sunday and Monday September 13, 14 and 15. Monday will be the big day. There will be sports for which good prizes will be put up, four baseball clubs in a tournament and four tag of war teams. Admission to grounds 25c and 15c soldiers and their families free. The soldiers will be banqueted. **Watches will be presented to Milton soldiers who have not already received them.** Full particulars later.

9.11 ATTACHMENT #11 - Milton Canadian Champion August 28, 1919

SOLDIERS' DAYS.—The committee appointed to arrange for Milton's big three-day event for returned soldiers, Sept. 13th, 14th and 15th, reported progress at a meeting held on Tuesday evening. Highly satisfactory progress is being made, but it is not far enough advanced for the announcement of full particulars. Among the attractions will be the band of the 164th Battalion, baseball matches, athletic sports, for which liberal prizes will be given, concerts and dancing on the pavement. Watches will be presented to Milton soldiers and signet rings from Trafalgar council to the Trafalgar men who did not get them at Oakville. All the men will be given a banquet.

SOLDIERS DAYS

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9.12 ATTACHMENT #12 - Milton Canadian Champion, September 4, 1919

<p>The Canadian Champion MILTON, Sept. 4, 1919.</p> <p>Owing to objections having been raised to the town council's resolution providing for the presentation of gold watches to Milton soldiers returned from overseas, particularly to the proviso that those getting the watches must have been bona fide residents of the town at the time of enlistment, the council has obtained a legal opinion on the matter. It reads as follows:</p> <p>"Chapter 17 of 1915 Ontario Statutes gives the municipality power to give grants for certain purposes. To this is added the following section, numbered 5, chapter 41, 1917 statutes: 'Provide for grants to officers and men who have returned from active service with the naval or military forces of the British Empire or Great Britain's allies and who were residents of the municipality for six months prior to enlistment.'</p> <p>The above makes it plain that the council's resolution is in accordance with the statute, and there is no justification for fault finding. If there are to be any presentations to returned men for which there is no statutory authority for a municipal grant the money required must be raised by subscription. It cannot come out of the town treasury.</p>	<p>Owing to objections having been raised to the town council's resolution providing for the presentation of gold watches to Milton soldiers returned from overseas, particularly to the proviso that those getting the watches must have been bona fide residents of the town at the time of enlistment that the council has obtained a legal opinion.</p>	<p>"Chapter 17 of 1915 Ontario Statutes gives the municipality power to give grants for certain purposes. To this is added the following section, numbered 5, chapter 41 1917 statutes: 'Provide for grants to officers and men who have returned from active service with the naval or military forces of the British Empire or Great Britain's allies and who <u>were residents of the municipality for six months prior to enlistment.</u>'"</p>	<p>The above makes it plain that the council's resolution is in accordance with the statute and there is no justification for fault finding. If there are to be any presentations to returned men for which there is no statutory authority for a municipal grant the money required must be raised by a subscription. It cannot come from the town treasury.</p>
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9.13 ATTACHMENT #13 - Milton Canadian Champion, September 11, 1919

SOLDIERS' RECEPTION.

The committee for the Soldiers' Reception next Saturday, Sunday and Monday met at the town hall yesterday evening. All reported satisfactory progress. Ample contributions for the banquet have been secured. The decorations will be a credit to the town. They will include an arch at the corner of Main and Martin streets, now being erected. The fancy dress dance on the pavement on Monday evening will be something brilliant. The young people generally will take part in it, all in fancy costumes, and the orchestra will be from the band of the 164th Batt. Dr. R. K. Anderson will preside on Saturday, Judge Elliot on Sunday afternoon, Mayor Earl on Monday afternoon and Warden Little on Monday evening.

Arrangements have been made with Brig.-Gen. Gunn for the loan of full equipment for fifty returned men, who will stage an attack on a German machine gun nest Monday afternoon, so that it will be as realistic as possible. The town council met last Monday evening to consider the watch presentation, so that all for whom they can be bought with municipal funds may get them. The cases of four boys, minors, who had been employed outside the town for a short time before enlistment, were considered. They will get watches. This should and no doubt will end dissatisfaction. The council has stretched its authority to the limit for the benefit of the boys. The concert at the town hall on Saturday evening will be given by the band of the 164th and other talent. A splendid program is being arranged. Plan at Mackenzie's.

On Monday evening there will be moving pictures, a choice lot, at the Princess Theatre, with a musical programme given by the band of the 164th Batt. and others.

On Saturday the Reception Committee, with the Citizens' Band, will meet the 4:45 p.m. G.T.R. train with motor cars in which the band of the 164th Batt. and other veterans will be conveyed to billets and homes. All other trains will also be met. There will be big arrivals by C.P.R. trains.

On Sunday afternoon there will be a sacred band concert at Victoria Park. Rev. (Captain) Robb, of Dundas, will deliver a patriotic address. The ministers of the town will assist. Programmes are being printed.

SOLDIER'S RECEPTION

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The concert at the town hall on Saturday evening will be given by the band of the 164th and other talent. A splendid program is being arranged.

(rest of item not transcribed at present)

9.14 ATTACHMENT #14 - Milton Canadian Champion, September 18, 1919

The Canadian Champion
MILTON, Sept. 18, 1919.

SOLDIERS' RECEPTION.

Milton's reception to her returned soldiers last Saturday, Sunday and Monday was one of the most interesting events in the history of the town. All business men and the great majority of other citizens responded with a will to the request to decorate their premises given by the council, who looked after the public buildings, and by Friday evening the work was practically completed. Many loads of fine cedar, were brought in and

young cedars were brought in and were used on two arches across Main street, one at the post office and the other opposite the Hotel Gibbon, and on arches over the entrances of buildings, as well as around their doors and windows. There was greenery on every telegraph, telephone and Hydrolite and on every tele post on Main St. from the Methodist Church to the bridge. There was a great display of bunting, large and small flags of the Allies, streamers, etc. E. B. Graham carried off the prize for the best decorated store, displaying very large

British, American, Belgian and Italian ensigns outside, with the French Tri-color, an extra Union Jack, etc., in his window. The Bank of Nova Scotia was a good second in the matter of large flags. Visitors who had seen similar receptions elsewhere said Milton's decorations were the most beautiful of all. Thus, Ford's house decorations took the prize.

The first game in the baseball tournament was played on Saturday, Milton defeating Acton 15 to 9.

The band of the 16th Battalion, re-mobilized at Hamilton for the occasion by its leader, Sergt. W. B. Deacon, arrived in the afternoon and was present at the R.G.R. station by the Reception Committee, the Citizens' Band and a host of motor cars. The two bands massed and headed the procession, bands having been present at the station after the opening, and its men distributed among other units, the boys arrived in a variety of uniforms, from which they changed later into a uniform of a Hessian type, and they made a gay appearance. Though separated so long, the boy's playing was not noticeably affected and it helped greatly in the success of the performance.

Later in the evening there was a concert at the town hall. The band played selections, and there was a solo. At the conclusion of the concert there was a large parade of veterans, commanded by Major Eagleson, with the band of the 16th Battalion's Bugle Band and decorated veterans. The reception committee can be traced, D. S. Robson, Mayor and council, Band of the 16th Battalion, Veterans' Eagleson's Bugle Band, Cavalry and Artillery, and the band and mounted car corps, Tom J. Wilharm, architect, with two captured "Hessian" guns, Mr. O.D.E. Mrs. Book, car, Canada, Mrs. R. M. Clements, car, Britain, Ross Stuart, car, Navy, Petty Officer, Jack, car, France, E. R. Hutchinson, car, United States, G. G. Gowling, car, Canada, R. B. Galbraith, firemen's truck and car, Mr. Thrift, Sayings, W. B. Clark, car, and a host of others.

At the grounds there was a long programme of other music, vocal and instrumental, with readings, Dr. R. K. Anderson, M.P., was chairman.

mand. The hymns, "O God, our help in ages past" and "From ocean to ocean" were sung. There was a very large crowd and the band played selections.

Monday was the big day. Soldiers

out of the boy, made 3 runs and lost by only 1 run.

A squad of veterans, armed with rifles and machine guns, and commanded by Sergt. Burrows, staged an attack on a Hun machine gun nest.

Shadley was the big boy, and he and his men had been out all day, and were very tired. They had been on all kinds of travel, by train, auto, and other conveyances. Khaki was seen everywhere, but a great many of the men were in uniform. In the afternoon the second game in the baseball tournament came off, at Oakville vs. Campbellville. It was the best of the three. It went to ten innings, when Oakville got a run in the ninth, and won. All the time the procession started from the east end of Main street to the west end, and thence to the fair grounds. The Mayor gave an opening address, and the band played and fired by fuses.

which he spoke of the splendid services of the men and the sacrifices they made, some of them coming home manently disabled. He added words of sympathy for the wife dependents and relatives of the heroes. There was much cheering each man showed himself. In Sergt. W. F. Dewar's case it was singularly enthusiastic.

At 6 p.m. the returned men at Nursing Sisters were given a b in Knox Church Sunday

in Knox County. Some of them were a choice morsel for the ladies of the town, so great much was left over and disposed of later in a temporary restaurant opened in Fred Dewar's. Finally, after making a mess which was harvested from the Main Street paved road which was bounded from Martin Street to the town hall orchestra from the band of the Battalion Battalion, the audience was so numerous that the hall had to be enlarged. There were full costumes in infinite variety, the usual clowns, darlings, etc. The scene was very pretty, the dancing space was surrounded, outside of which was a sidewalk.

SOLDIERS' RECEPTION

Milton's reception to her returned soldiers last Saturday, Sunday and Monday was one of the most interesting events in the history of the town. All business men and the great majority of other citizens responded with a will to the request to decorate their premises given by the council, who looked after the public buildings, and by Friday evening the work was practically completed. Many loads of young cedars were brought in and were used on two arches across Main Street, one at the post office, the other opposite the Hotel McGibbon, and on arches over the entrances of buildings, as well as around their doors and windows. There was greenery on telegraph, telephone and Hydro pole and on every tie post on Main St. from the Methodist Church to the bridge. There was a great display of bunting, large and small flags of the Allies, streamers, etc. E. B. Graham carried off the prize for the best decorated store, displaying very large British, American, Belgian and Italian ensigns outside, with the French Tricolour, an extra Union Jack, etc., in his window. The Bank of Nova Scotia was a good second in the matter of large flags. Visitors who had seen similar receptions elsewhere said Milton's decorations were the most beautiful of all. Thos. Ford's house decorations took the prize.

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Dewar, arrived Saturday evening and was met at the G.T.R. station by the Reception Committee, the

Citizens' Band and a host of motor cars. The two bands massed and headed the procession. The 164th having been broken up after going overseas and its men distributed among other units, the boys arrived in a variety of uniforms, from which they changed later into those of a Highland corps, in which they made a fine appearance. Though separated so long, the boys playing was not noticeably affected and it helped greatly in the success of the reception.

Later in the evening there was a concert at the town hall. The band played selections, and there was a splendid programme of other music, vocal and instrumental, with readings. Dr. R. K. Anderson, M.P., was chairman.

On Sunday afternoon Judge Elliot presided at Victoria Park, giving the opening address, which was followed by a rousing speech from Rev. (Captain) Robb, of Dundas, who made a strong appeal for

consideration for the returned men during re-establishment. The hymns, "O God, our help in ages past" and —From ocean to ocean" were sung. There was a very large crowd and the band played selections. Monday was the big day. Soldiers and other visitors came from all directions, by train, autos and other conveyances. Khaki was seen everywhere, many of the men were in mufti.

In the morning the second game in the baseball tournament came off, Oakville vs. Campbellville. It was the best of the three. It went ten innings when Oakville got a run across and won, 7 to 6.

At 1 pm, the big procession started from the east end of Main Street to the west end and thence to the fair grounds. There was a large parade of veterans, commanded by Sergt. Major, Eagleson, with the band of the 164th, Eagleson's Bugle Band and decorated cars. The following is the order of the procession: car, Peace, D. S. Robertson. Mayor and council, Band of the 164th Battalion, Veterans, Eagleson's Bugle Band, Cavalry and Artillery officers and men mounted, car, air force, Joe Wilmott, artillery (with two captured Hun "whizbang" guns), car, I.O.D.E., Mrs. Book, car, Canada, Mrs. R. M. Clement's, car, Britain, Ross Stuart, car, Navy, Petty Officer Jack Brewer and another Jack Tar, car, France, E. R. Hutchinson, car. United States, Geo. Gowling, car, Japan, R. B. Galbraith, firemen's truck, car, War Thrift Savings, W. B. Clements.

At the grounds there was a long program of athletic sports, for which liberal prizes were given. There was a tug of war, Esquesing vs. Milton, Esquesing winning. The third and final game in the baseball tournament, Oakville vs. Milton, was won by Oakville. Both pitchers were hit hard and the score was 15-14. Oakville started with 4 runs and led to the ninth, when Milton knocked the visitors' pitcher out of the box, mad 5 runs and lost by only 1 run.

A squad of veterans armed with rifles and machine guns and commanded by Sergt. Burrows, staged an attack on a Hun machine gun nest, which was very realistic and would have been more so if the men had had blank ammunition. As it was they made a good deal of noise and smoke with jam-tin bombs, loaded with black powder and fired by fuses.

The most interesting event was the presentation of gold watches to 99 veterans who were citizens of Milton 6 months before enlistment. It came off on a platform next to the grand stand, on which were Mayor Earl, the Reeve and councillors. The mayor gave an opening address, in which he spoke of the splendid services of the men and the sacrifices they had made, some of them coming home permanently disabled. He added a few words of sympathy for the widows, dependents and relatives of the fallen heroes. There was much cheering, as each man showed himself. **In band Sergt. W. F. Dewar's case it was particularly enthusiastic.**

Then followed the presentation of life **membership certificates, with gold badges** from the Daughters of the Empire to nursing Sisters Mrs. Mary Robertson, Misses Kathleen Panton R.R.C., Misses Evelyn and Ruby Galloway and Nellie Lawson, of the Canadians and Bessie Scott of the American Red Cross. Mrs. Palmer Book, Regent of John Milton Chapter, read an address which will be published next week. Mayor Earl then addressed the Sisters. In his address he spoke of their work of mercy at the front and the hospitals and of the heroism displayed by them who were under fire and in hospitals bombed by the fiendish Huns. On behalf of the council he presented each of them with a **gold ring**. Panton responded and, thanking the I.O.D.E. and the council.

At 6 p.m. the returned men and the Nursing Sisters were given a banquet in Know Church Sunday School. There was a choice menu, provided the ladies of town, so generously that much was left over and it was disposed of later in a temporary restaurant opened in Fred Dewar's shop.

Finally, after moving pictures, there was a fancy dress ball, a masquerade on the Main Street paved roadway which was barricaded from the corner of Martin Street to the Town Hall. An orchestra from the band of the 164th Battalion supplied the music. There were so many dancers that the space had to be enlarged. There were tasteful costumes in infinite variety, besides the usual clowns, darkies, etc. The scene was very pretty, the dancing space was surrounded by seats, outside of which was a crowd which blocked the sidewalks.

9.15 ATTACHMENT #15 - Milton Canadian Champion, September 25, 1919

<p>VETERANS' THANKS.</p> <p>To Editor of the Champion:</p> <p>Toronto, Sept. 18, 1919.</p> <p>Dear Sir.—Kindly allow us to thank the ladies, Mayor, Reeve, town council, "our member," and all the good people of Milton, including the bands, for the magnificent reception accorded us by our home town, and for the beautiful and valuable watches, which we shall always use and treasure as heirlooms of your faith in us, and in gladsome remembrance of the part we were privileged to take in representing Milton in the Front Line, shoulder to shoulder, comrades all, with the rest of the Empire's soldiers, sailors and nurses. This magnificent reception was a climax to Milton's share in the Great War for freedom and although we miss many a gallant and heroic comrade, as in the beautiful words of the Scroll:</p>	<p>VETERAN'S THANKS</p> <p>To Editor of the Champion, Toronto Sept. 16, 1919</p> <p>Dear Sir—Kindly allow us to thank the ladies, Mayor, Reeve, town council, "our members" and all the good people of Milton, including the band, for the magnificent reception accorded us by our home town and for the beautiful and valuable watches, which we shall always use and treasure as heirlooms of your faith in us and in gladsome remembrance of the part we were privileged to take in representing Milton on the Front Line, shoulder to shoulder, comrades all, with the rest of the Empire's soldiers, sailors and nurses. This magnificent reception was a climax to Milton's share in the Great War for freedom and although we miss many and heroic comrade as in the beautiful words of the Scroll:</p> <p><i>"He was numbered among those who at the call of King and country left all that was dear to them, endured hardships, faced dangers, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their lives that others might live in freedom."</i>*</p>
<p>"He was numbered among those who at the call of King and country left all that was dear to them, endured hardships, faced dangers, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their lives that others might live in freedom."</p> <p>As far as our knowledge, no one single soldier to leave Milton, disgraced her fair name, or oath to King and country.</p> <p>Before concluding, we must again voice our deepest appreciation to all the women of Milton for their loyal and magnificent support to us at all times, which was our greatest incentive and inspiration to play a part worthy of a place we were happy and proud to call our home town. Long may Milton flourish: as loyal she began, so loyal she remains.</p> <p>Edward L. H. Smith, M.M., Bert Maguire, Harold Heath, Percy Sugden.</p>	<p><i>"He was numbered among those who at the call of King and country left all that was dear to them, endured hardships, faced dangers, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their lives that others might live in freedom."</i>*</p> <p>As far as our knowledge, no one single soldier to leave Milton disgraced her fair name, an oath to the King and country.</p> <p>Before concluding we must again voice our deepest appreciation to all the women of Milton for their loyal and magnificent support to us at all times, which was our greatest incentive and inspiration to play a part worthy of a place we were happy and proud to call our home town. Long may Milton flourish: as loyal she began, so loyal she remains.</p> <p>Edward. L. H. Smith, M.M.</p> <p>Bert Maguire</p> <p>Harold Heath</p> <p>Percy Sugden</p>

* (my note 2011: Scroll of Honour the King directed be given to the relatives of men who lost their lives in the war)

9.16 ATTACHMENT #16 - Milton Canadian Champion, November 10, 2011

As we have included a large number of historic (archive) documents from the Milton Canadian Champion, it seems only appropriate to include the most recent article prepared for Remembrance Day 2011 – 96 years after the first watch was issued.



The Canadian Champion Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860
CNA Named Canada's Top Community Newspaper
www.miltoncanadianchampion.ca

SPORTS
Marlins debut in new pool

NEWS
Town planning uses for heritage sites

A Metroland Media Group publication • Vol. 152 No. 71
Thursday, November 10, 2011

Watch-ing mystery come to light

Local historian pens report about gold timepieces given to WWI soldiers

By Kathy Yanchus
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

It was when he actually held one of the antique gold timepieces that Richard Laughton made the promise.

"Actually seeing and holding Private Regan's watch meant it was time to find an answer to the puzzle. I told (his) grandson Ron that I would undertake that task, so that was my commitment," said Laughton, local historian and author of the recently completed research project, 'Milton's Commemorative Gold Watches — A Mystery from the Past'.

Delving into the story of the pocket-watches given to returning First World War soldiers by the town of Milton became an "extension" of Laughton's significant research into both the Canadian and British Expeditionary Forces, in which both his grandfathers served.

This 12-year quest led to further research on the Great War soldiers of Milton, which resulted in many other • see INPUT on page 2

LEST WE FORGET: Zoe Gottwald, 5, of Milton prepares to lay a wreath on behalf of The War Amps during Sunday's Park. Zoe was injured last year in a riding lawn mower accident that resulted in the amputation of her left leg below 21. Tomorrow's traditional Remembrance Day service will be held at Evergreen Cemetery on Ontario Street at 11 a.m.



Input sought from community in pocketwatch project

• from WATCH-ING on page 1

projects about local soldiers by Laughton, and other members of the Milton Historical Society (MHS), all of which are posted on its website.

It was when Milton Legion member Ron Regan brought in his grandfather's gold pocketwatch that the mystery of its origin put the wheels in motion. While conducting a research report on Private Regan for his grandson Ron, Laughton launched a search for the identity of other soldiers who might have received a gold watch.

The result is a meticulously researched 88-page report, which reveals, among a myriad of other historical data about the mementos, that 118 watches were presented between 1915 and 1922, the largest number of those watches handed out on Dominion Day 1917.

"The research to arrive at the answer to the gold watches covers a period of more than eight years as without the work on the study of the Milton soldiers which was initiated in March 2003, the gold watch project could not have started," explained Laughton.

Prior research meant that he had a massive amount of information already collected on the Milton soldiers of the Great War, he said. On the gold watch project alone,

Laughton spent about 300 hours.

"The report is an intricate chronology of Laughton's painstaking research, itemizing how he managed to compile a list of probable candidates based on criteria established by the council and selection committee of the time.

"If I recall, there were about eight cycles in the research loop as I narrowed down the candidates until I was sure I had them all, and correctly," he said.

The gold watch mystery was an intense research project, he admitted, but not lengthy in terms of the time devoted to Great War research in Canada and around the world.

There are tens of thousands of private researchers working on the preservation of the history of the Great War, said Laughton.

"Several side benefits came from his work, such as the creation of an electronic spreadsheet of the 1911 census for the town of Milton, information that is now available to other local historians," said Laughton. "The true significance of the project was the blending of the old and the new."

By old I mean the paper records such as the Milton Champion archives and the soldiers records from Library and Archives Canada. By new I mean the use of online computer data bases, census information and the ability to create

tion component of the project.

"We need to find out more from the community, particularly from the families of the Great War soldiers. I would not only welcome, but appreciate, input from anyone who wished to review, comment on, or critique this report."

Anyone interested in contacting Laughton or in obtaining a copy of his research report, can do so online or by emailing him directly at milton-soldiers@gmail.com.

Kathy Yanchus can be reached at kathy.yanchus@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

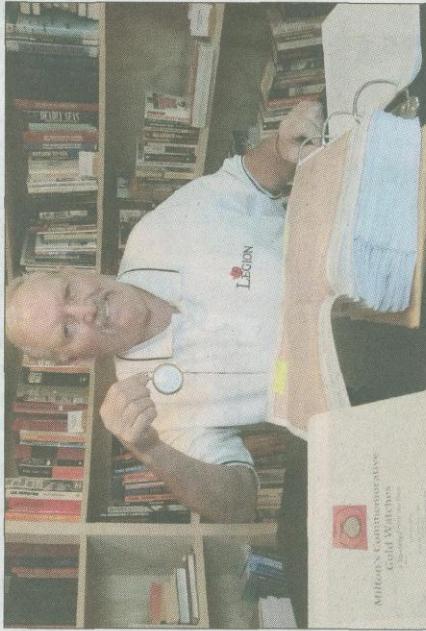


PHOTO BY RICHARD LAUGHTON

Legion member Ron Regan displays his grandfather's First World War gold watch that served as the catalyst for Richard Laughton's Milton's Commemorative Gold Watches — A Mystery From The Past'.

Legion member Ron Regan displays his grandfather's First World War gold watch that served as the catalyst for Richard Laughton's Milton's Commemorative Gold Watches — A Mystery From The Past'.

online as well in hard copy form at the MHS and the Milton Legion. His

vast amount of research material to support the report is currently in his office but will eventually make its way into the MHS archives on James Street.

"We will probably also look at a date to do a presentation of all of the materials, not just to give the final results but to explain the details of the process," he said. "This is not the end of the project but rather the beginning of the public participa-

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9.17 ATTACHMENT #17- *Spreadsheet Analysis*

The final spreadsheet that demonstrates how the review process was completed is a large document and difficult to read in a print or on-line version.

For the purpose of completeness, the on-line PDF version of this report also contains a PDF version of the spread sheet; however that sheet is not included in the WORD versions of the document.

Links to all of the versions of the document, as well as the individual files that may be used for clarity of the report are listed on the web site of the Milton Historical Society at this link:

<http://www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca/Research/Web%20Sites/Milton%20Soldiers/Gold%20Watches/>

The short form (TINY URL) for that site, should you wish to e-mail it to others is:

<http://tinyurl.com/miltongoldwatches>

Any changes to the report and data will be noted at that web site.

Comments on the report may be sent by e-mail to the author at miltonsoldiers@gmail.com or posted to the GOLD WATCH BLOG at:

<http://miltonwatches.wordpress.com/>

(links to other sites provided where available)		CENSUS 1911	SERVICE NUMBER	SERVICE UNIT	Gold Watch Status		PC	OL	1914	1915	1917	Listed	Must Be	May Be	Farmer	Not Likely	Memorial/Chruch/Placard Listed					Returned or Deceased					Place of Residence			Reference Document			Halton RiBastedo22 of 29			Local		Web	RELATIVE (AF)
LAST NAME	GIVEN NAMES				GW	LW											VPC	HC	SPUC	KPC	GAC	Other	SURV	DMU	KIA	KIS	DOW	DOI	M	MW	MH	Other	MRWWI	AF	TC	20th R	4th Bn	76th	164th
Hamilton	Robert	11 Jul 1885	663554	164th Bn			1																x												Sarah Jane Hamilton				
Hamilton	Robert Russell	1895	663370	164th Bn			1															x													Andy Hamilton				
Hamman	Edward Charles	3 Feb 1886	138603	20th Bn			1															x																	
Hampson	Harry																																						
Hardy	Ed	22 April 1879	138603	20th Bn			1															x													Annie Hardy (Sister in UK)				
Hardy	William	9 June 1879	422081	44th Bn	1				1													x													Charles Harris				
Harris	John Witham	11 Jun 1892																																					
Harrison	David Edward	21 Aug 1881	466781	63rd Bn			1															x													Mary Harrison, Moffat				
Harrison	Septimus	27 Feb 1880	11092	4th Bn			1															x																	
Harrop	Cedric	21 Oct 1898	348281	RCHA			1														x	156																	
Hartley	Harold Kenneth	11 Sep 1891	874758	184th Bn			1														x	omagh													June Fennel				
Harwood	William Pharo	1 Nov 1897	227028	CMR Dep	1	1															x																		
Hathaway	Frank James	24 Aug 1890	663520	164th Bn																	x														Nellie Hathaway				
Hawthorne	Russell Bowbere	27 May 1896	663095	164th Bn	1																x		1												Mrs I S Hawthrone				
Heason	William Henry	22 May 1878	663371	164th Bn			1													x			1												Mrs Dicks Milton (friend)				
Heath	Harold	30 Jun 1892	663096	164th Bn	1															x			x											Mary A Heath					
Heatherington	Samuel	17 Apr 1872	663097	164th Bn																x			x											Elizabeth McLary					
Hemming	Harry	1897	663098	164th Bn			1												x			1												Harry Hemming					
Hemming	John	29 Aug 1895	657245	162nd Bn			1												x			1												Harry Hemming					
Hepburn	Dugald - brother	14 Jun 1897	505058	Can Eng			1												x			1												Ida Bell Hepburn					
Hepburn	Gordon (twin)	19 Feb 1899	209199	Can Eng			1												x			1																	
Hepburn	Russell (twin)	19 Feb 1899	507624	Signals			1												x			1												Ida Hepburn					
Hill	George	25 Aug 1876	46585	17th Bn	1				1									x		x		1			x								Naomi Hill						
Hilson	Matthew	3 Jan 1890	3137757	1st Dep Bn			1											x		x		1			x									John Hilson					
Hilson	Thomas Frederick	6 Sep 1887	331430	2nd Dep Bn			1											x		x	sd		1		x		x							Mrs Margaret Hilson					
Hopkins	Alfred	10 May 1873	249802	RLW	1													x		x				x											Annie Maria Hopkins				
Hume	George Sherwood	1 Mar 1893	2365632	Uoft OTC	1													x			1			x											Bernina Hume				
Hurley	John Bartholomew	27 Nov 1880	57660	20th Bn		1	1											x					x											Annie Hurley - Milton 1914					
Inman	Harold John	4 Feb 1894	793	5 Stn Hosp	1			1										x			1			x										William Inman					
Irwin	Frank	9 Jul 1895	3109989	1st Dep Bn		1												x			1			x										Ethel Irwin					
Jackson	Charles Samuel	2 Jan 1881	22-22-26-14	663099	164th Bn		1											x		x			1			x								Kathleen Jackson (w) Milton					
James	John Leslie	20 Mar 1881	249914	208th Bn		1												x		x			1			x								Beatrice Francis James - moved					
Jarvie	John	20 Sept 1897	142533	76th Bn		1												x		x			1			x		</td											

(links to other sites provided where available)		CENSUS	SERVICE	SERVICE	Gold	Watch	Status	Noted	Noted	Noted	Must	May	Not	Memorial/Chruch/Placard	Listed	Returned or Deceased	Place of Residence	Reference	Document	Halton	Ri	Bastedo	22 of 29	Local	Web	RELATIVE (AF)																		
LAST NAME	GIVEN NAMES	BIRTH	1911	NUMBER	UNIT	GW	LW	MP	LC	PC	OL	1914	1915	1917	Listed	Be	Be	Farmer	Likely	VPC	HC	SPUC	KPC	GAC	Other	SURV	DMU	KIA	KIS	DOW	DOI	M	MW	MH	Other	MRWWI	AF	TC	20th R	4th Bn	76th	164th		
Martin	Joseph James	Dec 1897	24-12-37-129	unknown	unknown	1												x		1					x		x												if it is Charles Martin's son					
Maude	Harold John	16 Jul 1894	22-1-48-9	3039071	1st Dep Bn	1												x		1					x	x	x											Elizabeth Maude						
Mayes	Arthur	25 Dec 1880	23-1-5-2	142532	76th Bn	1												x		1					x		x	x										Bessie Lucas Mayes						
McCallum	John Finlay	7 Oct 1882		663646	164th Bn			1										x		1					x		x	x										John Allan McCallum						
McCannell	Frank Robertson	21 Jan 1892	24-10-46-106	344196	73rd CFA			1										x		1					x		x	x										Clarissa Mann McConnell						
McDonald	Alvin Alexander	26 Jan 1894		340115	69th CFA														1						x		x	x										Mary McDonald						
McDonald	Wilfred Laurier	31 Oct 1896		3110038	1st Dep Bn														1						x		x	x										Ronald McDonald						
McDowell	Roy Currie	24 Nov 1894		663269	164th Bn			1										x		1					x		x	x										Margret Ann McDowell						
McEachern	Archie	13 Jul 1898	24-4-10-34	663727	164th Bn	1													1						x		x	x										James McEachern						
McGibbon	John D	17 May 1893		3110039	1st Dep Bn															1						x		x	x										Peter George McGibbon					
McGown	Hugh Ross	25 Dec 1872		663375	164th Bn		1											x							x		x	x										Jane McGown (W)						
McIntyre	Mark Calvin	16 Apr 1893		324009	55th CFA			1										x							x		x	x											Robert McLennan - Milton					
McJannett	John Henry	29 Oct 1879		9589	3rd Bn	1			1									x						x		x	x											Mrs. McKay in Milton						
McKay	Stewart	25 Mar 1895		142288	76th Bn			1										x						x		x	x											Mrs Mary Rose McKay						
McKay	William	13 Jan 1871	23-1-50-19 ?	57087	20th Bn	1				1								x						x		x	x											Neil McKechnie						
McKechnie	Harry Emerson	4 Dec 1897	23-7-24-81	663109	164th Bn	1												x						x		x	x											Wellington Harris (friend)						
McKenzie	Robert Bruce	29 Mar 1899		3310367	1st Dep Bn													x						x		x	x											Elsie McKenzie						
McKenzie	William	21 Feb 1874		663594	164th Bn		1										x						x		x	x											Margret McLaughlin							
McLaughlin	John	16 Aug 1896		142287	76th Bn			1									x						x		x	x											John McLean							
McLean	Joseph	11 Jun 1887																					x		x	x												Clara McLennan / Albert McLennan						
McLennan	James Alexander	6 Sept 1897	23-5-15-54	539	CADC	1											x						x		x	x												William McMaster						
McMaster	James Caswell	2 Jan 1873		663300	164th Bn												x						x		x	x												Mary McMullen						
McMullen	Daniel Aleck	28 June		663527	164th Bn		1										x						x		x	x												Margaret McMullen						
McMullen	Homer Wilson	23 Dec 1893		512566	3rd DSC	1											x						x		x	x												Mary McTague - Drumbo						
McTague	Robert Michael	28 Jan 1895		675620	168th Bn			1									x						x		x	x												David Megson (looks like moved)						
Megson	Henry Martin	4 Sep 1892		274162	216th Bn												x						x		x	x												Joseph Merritt						
Merrett	Percy Edward	2 Oct 1894		663107	164th Bn	1											x						x		x	x												Joseph Merritt						
Merrett	Roland Alexander	28 Jul 1896		737046	43rd Bn			1									x						x		x	x												Eliza Mills						
Metcalfe	Harvey	20 Mar 1897	23-9-10-105	310029	1st Dep Bn	1											x						x		x	x												Christina Milne - Moffat						
Millard	Alan William Noel	23 Dec 1894		663663	164th Bn	1											x						x		x	x												John Morley						
Millard	George	3 Nov 1890		2487871	5 For. Draft	1											x						x		x	x												Jennie Morley						
Miller	Allan	18 July 1890		142286	76th Bn	1											x						x		x	x												Mrs Thomas Miller						
Mills	Henry	9 June 1894		142285	76th																																							

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LAST NAME	GIVEN NAMES	BIRTH	1911	NUMBER	UNIT	GW	LW	MP	LC	PC	OL	1914	1915	1917	Listed	Be	Be	Farmer	Likely		SURV	DMU	KIA	KIS	DOW	DOI	M	MW	MH	Other	MRWWI	AF	TC	20th R	4th Bn	76th	164th		
Tuxworth	Albert Arthur	15 Mar 1892	22-7-36-70	663125	164th Bn	1						1				1		x		x	1			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Bastedo boy							
Waddington	Herbert	31 Jul 1880																		x		?													Emily Lucy Waddington (w) Milton				
Wall	Edwin Thomas	24 Feb 1882		663556	164th Bn	1													x	1		x												Ethel Clements Wall					
Wallace	George	29 Sep 1893		202051	95th Bn	1														x	1		x												Elizabeth Wallace				
Walsh	Frederick	20 Nov 1894		348333	RCHA	1													x	1		x												Cora Walsh (wife MW)					
Walsh	Joseph	20 Aug 1892		349905	RCHA	1													x	1		x												Mrs Walsh					
Warbey	James Thomas	22 Jul 1873		663233	164th Bn	1													x	1		x												Edith Alice Warbey (w) Milton West					
Ware	George	12 Aug 1886		663126	164th Bn	1												x	1		x												Florence Edith Ware (w) Milton						
Waters	Uriah Joseph	12 Nov 1896		210985	98th Bn	1													x	1		x											Mary Ann Waters (Legion named)						
Watson	John																																unknown - see 1911 census for Jennet						
Wedge	Isaac Brock	30 Sept 1883		663338	164th Bn	1													x	1		x											recently married, NOK now Acton wife						
Whaley	James Harold	10 Sept 1892		14781	6th Bn	1													x	1		x											Robert James Whaley - gold wrist watch						
Wharton	Charles Henry	24 Dec 1890		460659	61st Bn	1													x	1		x											Thomas Wharton						
Wharton	Lawrence Houson	13 Oct 1888	23-8-2-89	148064	78th Bn	1												x			x											Thomas Wharton							
Wheeler	Frederick John	9 Jul 1886		663129	164th Bn	1												x	1		x											James Wheeler							
White	Edgar Blake	7 Sep 1896	22-5-46-50	663635	164th Bn	1											x	1		x												Richard White							
White	Fred Cephas	23 Sept 1881	22-3-13-22	142303	76th	1											x	1		x												Mrs Ida White							
White	George	30 May 1886		348091	RCHA	1											x	1		x												Ada White - wife							
White	George W	2 Jan 1895		3110182	1st Dep Bn	1											x	1		x												Mrs Jacobs White							
Whitehead	Charles	20 Sep 1891		663263	164th Bn	1										x	1		x												Richard Whitehead								
Whiteman	Franklin Elmore	xx xxx 1894		663130	164th Bn	1										x	1		x												William Whiteman - Marysville								
Wicks	Robert	4 Jan 1884		663127	164th Bn	1										x	1		x												Mary Ann Wicks (w) Milton								
Wilkinson	Clarence Edward	19 Aug 1899	24-6-47-65	663569	5th CMR	1										x	1		x	1											Edward Wilkinson								
Williams	Sydney Thomas	31 May 1896	22-8-36-82	11188	4th Bn	1										x			x	1		x									Mrs Parks (sister) Milton								
Williamson	Adam	16 Sep 1889		663304	164th Bn	1										x	1		x	1		x									Frederick Charles Williamson								
Willmott	Joseph H	21 Dec 1897		3110187	1st Dep Bn											x	1		x	1		x									Alexander Wilson								
Wilson	Alexander	20 Jun 1887	23-1-15-7	663128	164th Bn	1										x	1		x	1		x									Alexander Wilson								
Wilson	David	3 Nov 1892		663373	164th Bn	1										x	1		x	1		x									Rosell Wilson (w) Milton Heights								
Wilson	John	24 Jul 1886		663683	164th Bn	1										x	1		x	1		x									Maggie Wilson (w) Milton								
Wilson	John	6 May 1877	23-12-17-142	663596	164th Bn	1										x			x	1		x									Mary Winn								
Winn	Ebenezer	14 Feb 1894	23-12-32-144	707	CADC	1										x	1		x	1		x									Milton Old Boy, moved but on GAC								
Winn	James Henry	17 Apr 1890	23-12-30-144	135607	74th Bn											x	1		x	1		x									Jessie Winn - visiting mother?								
Witmer	Harvey Osmond	29 Jul 1895	23-12-33-144	310	CADC	1										x	1		x	1		x									Cyrus Witmer - milton family 1911 census								
Yates	George Edward	29 Apr 1898	22-2-15-1011	3110199	1st Dep Bn											x	1		x	1		x									Charles Yates								